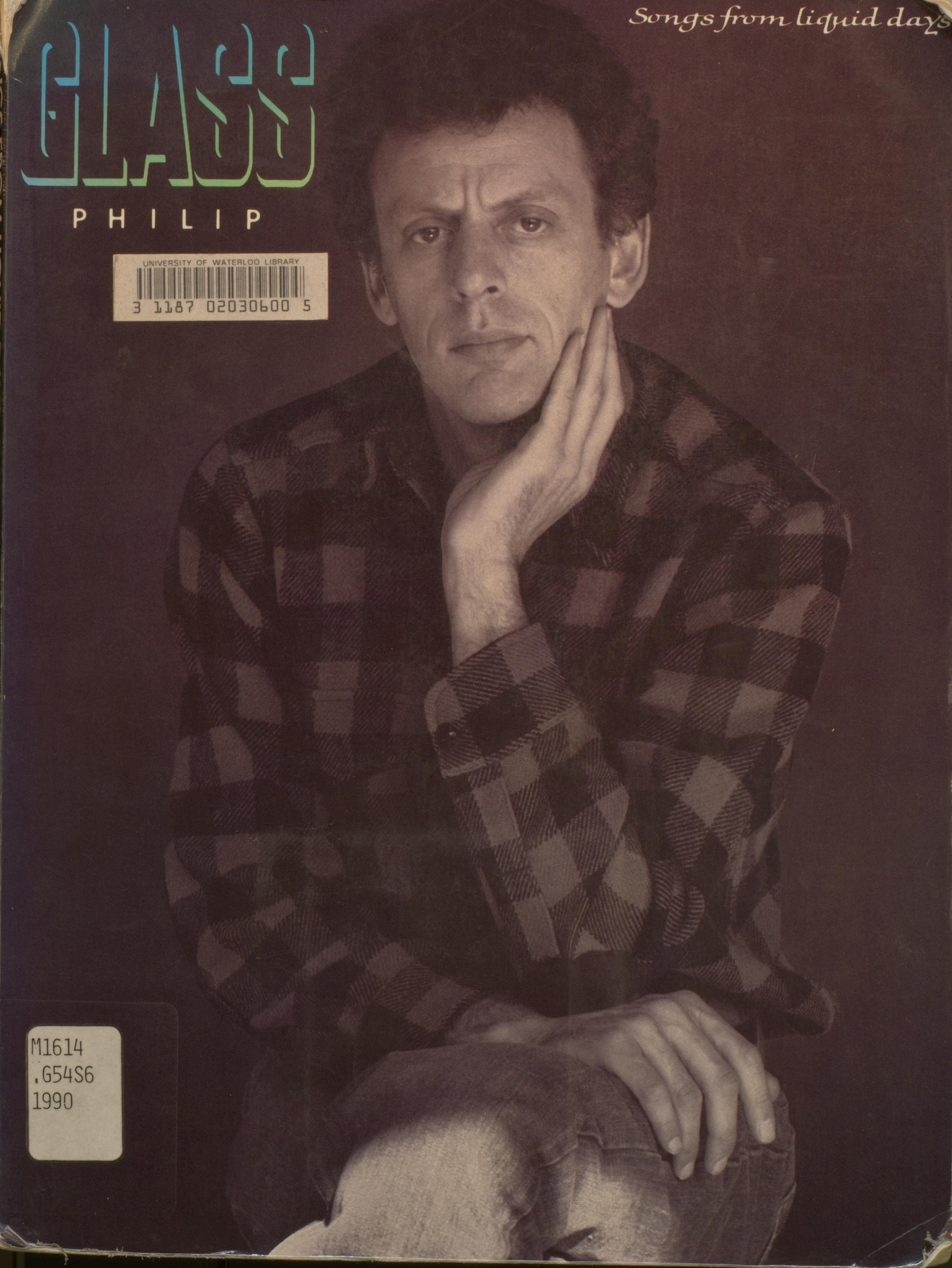
GLASS

PHILIP

Songs from liquid days



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GLASS

PHILIP

Songs from liquid days

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FROM THE LINER NOTES OF SONGS FROM LIQUID DAYS (1986)

CBS FM 39564

Songs are perhaps our most basic musical expression. Though I have worked widely in the fields of opera and music theater, I had not until this last year worked with the song form as such. Writing the song cycle *Songs from Liquid Days* became for me truly a voyage of discovery.

I began by asking David Byrne to write words that I could then set to music. We had worked together once before, and I found it such an easy and natural collaboration that I thought of extending the process with an entire record of songs.

It seemed to me that the people best suited to help with the lyrics would, like David, be other songwriters. It was clear that they, more than anyone else, would understand the practical demands of setting words to music. The people I asked—Paul Simon, Suzanne Vega, David Byrne and Laurie Anderson—are, I feel, not only understanding songwriters on their own but also lyricists whose poetry reflects individual styles and approaches to songwriting.

The words come first. From these I fashioned a set of six songs which, together, form a cycle of themes ranging from reflections on nature to classic romantic settings. After the music was written, I—along with producer Kurt Munkacsi and conductor Michael Reisman—began the long and difficult process of "casting" singers for the individual songs. We felt that the interpretation a singer brings to a song is an immense contribution to its character—contributing their own personality to the work perhaps more than any other performer.

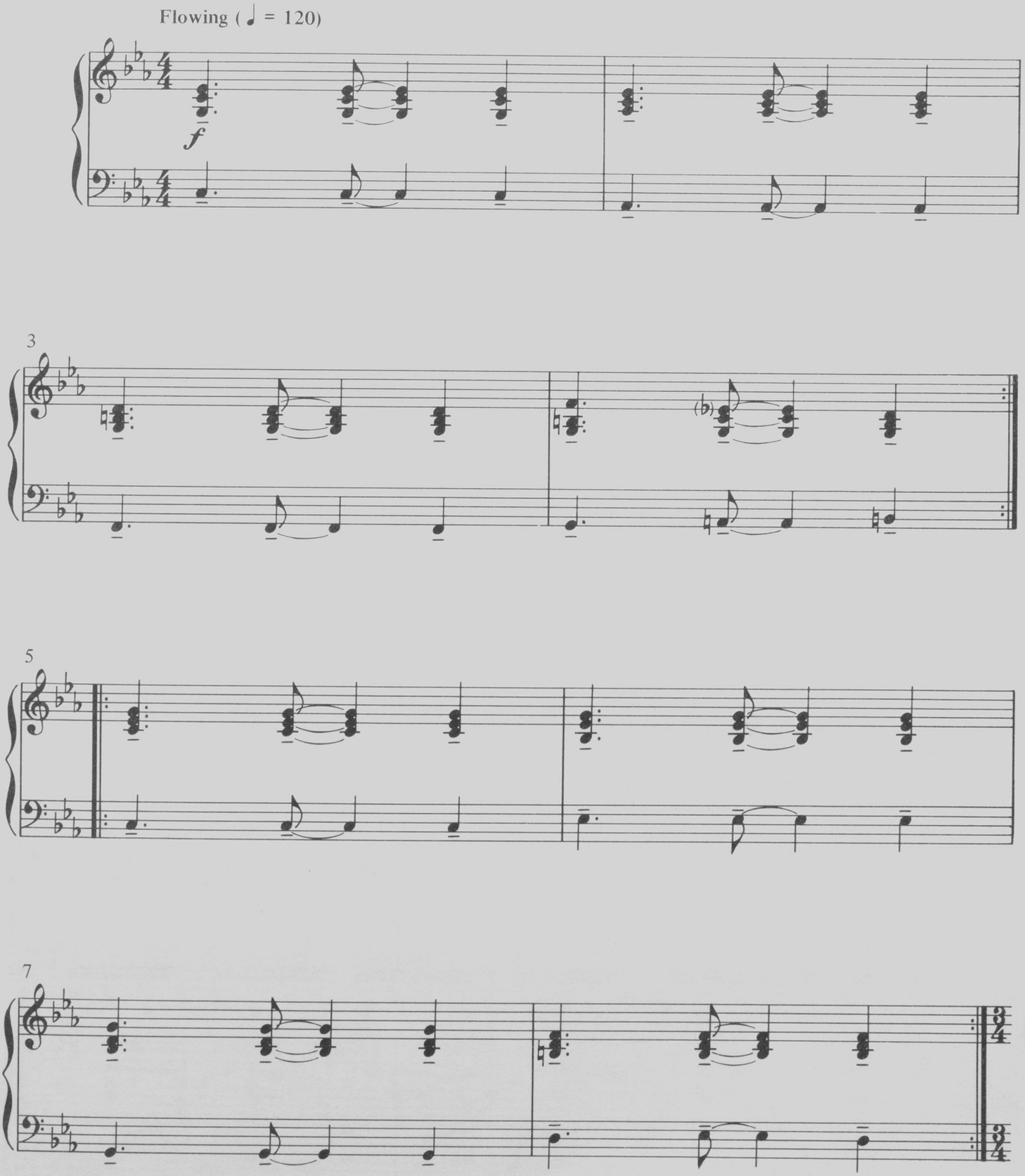
All in all, *Songs from Liquid Days* has brought together quite an astonishing assortment of people, from the progressive Kronos String Quartet to singers Linda Ronstadt, Doug Perry and Janice Pendarvis and Bernard Fowler. Among them, they cover a fair range of the contemporary music practiced in our time, from experimental to rock to opera. Add to them the writers already mentioned and one might ask, "What have they all got in common?"

For me, their commonality is that they are as uncommonly talented group of people—and about as diverse in personal style and practical approach to music-making as you're ever likely to find working together. I personally am very proud of my association with all of these artists and, lastly, grateful to them for their contribution to this record.

—PHILIP GLASS

CHANGING OPINION

Music by Philip Glass ▼ Words by Paul Simon



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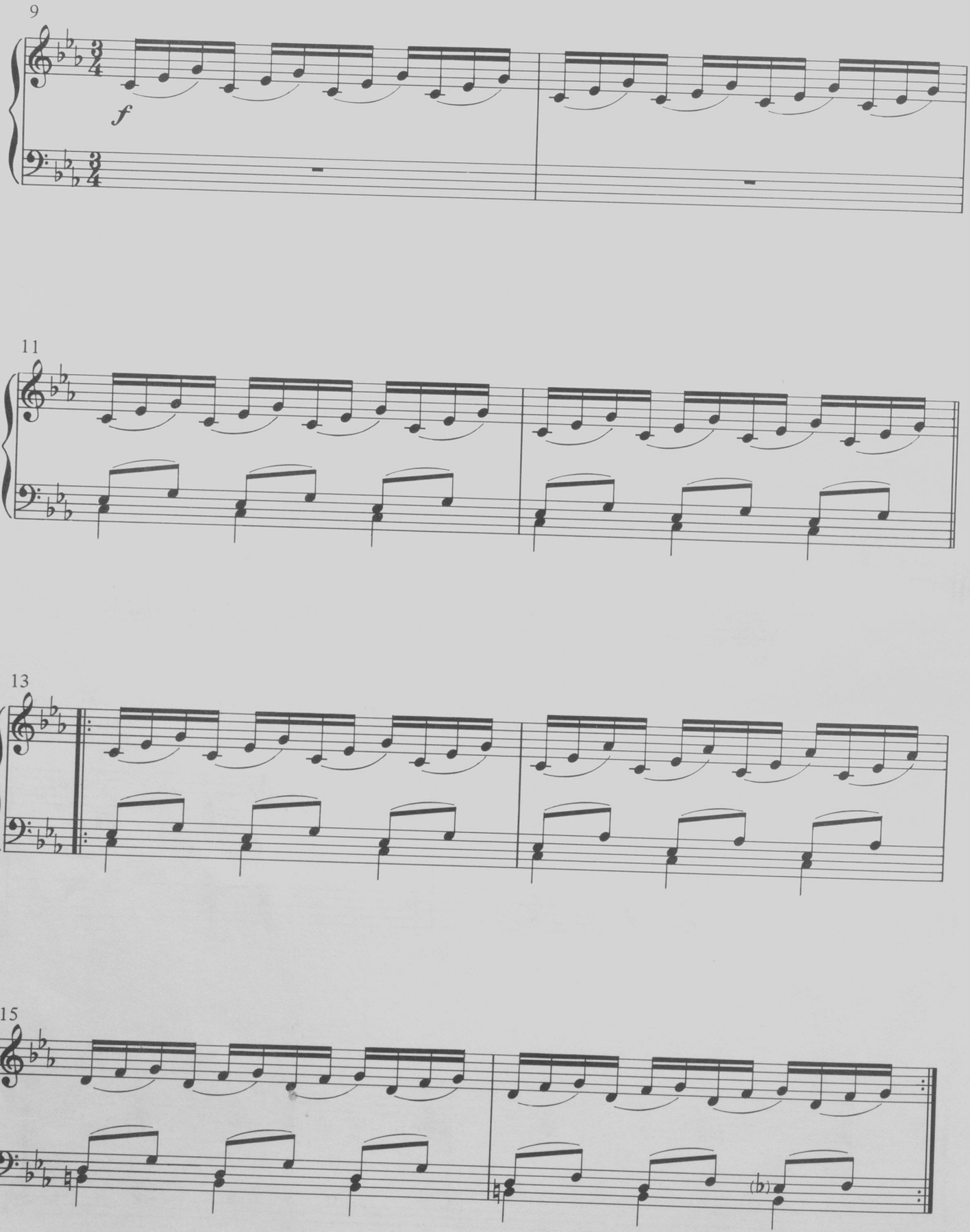
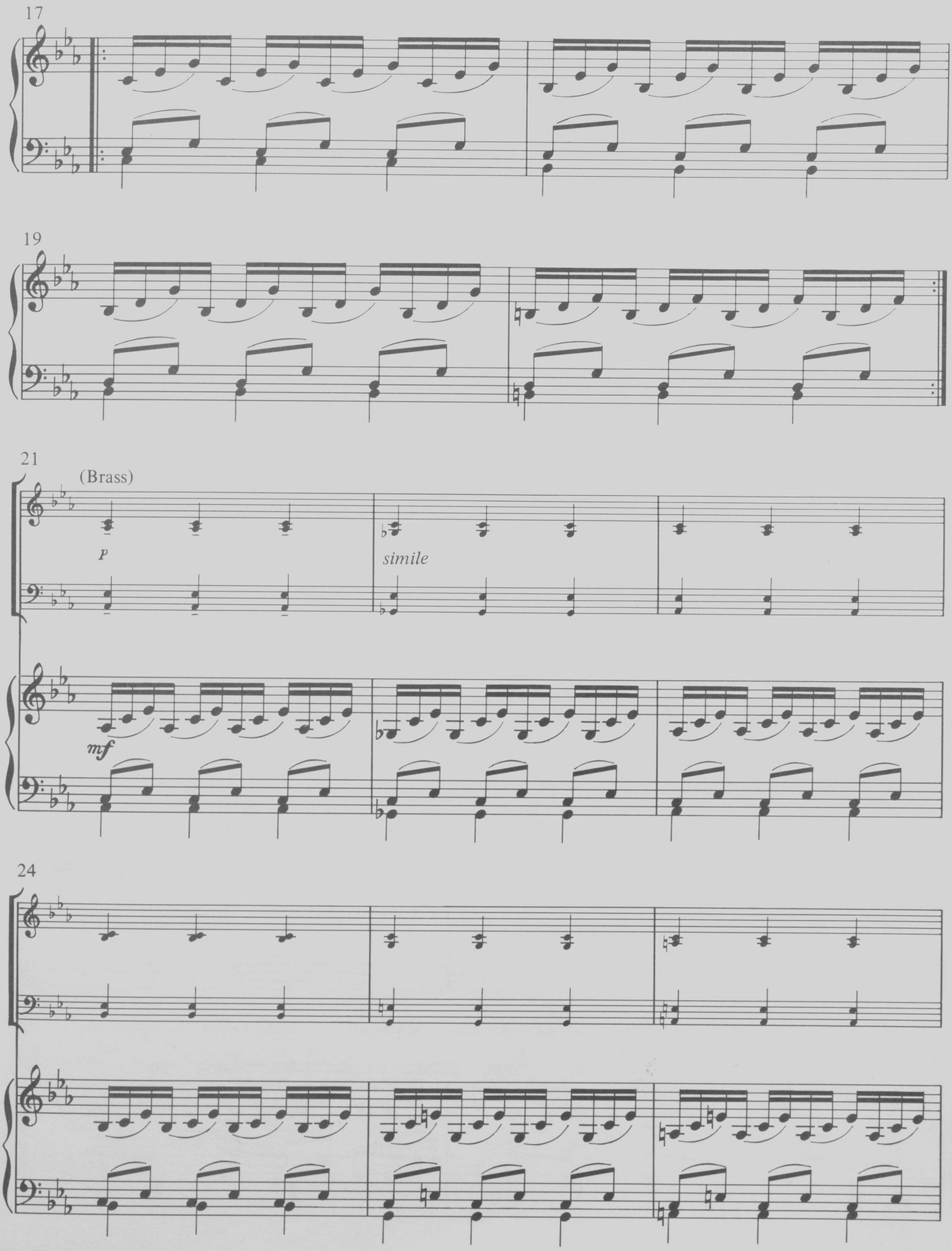
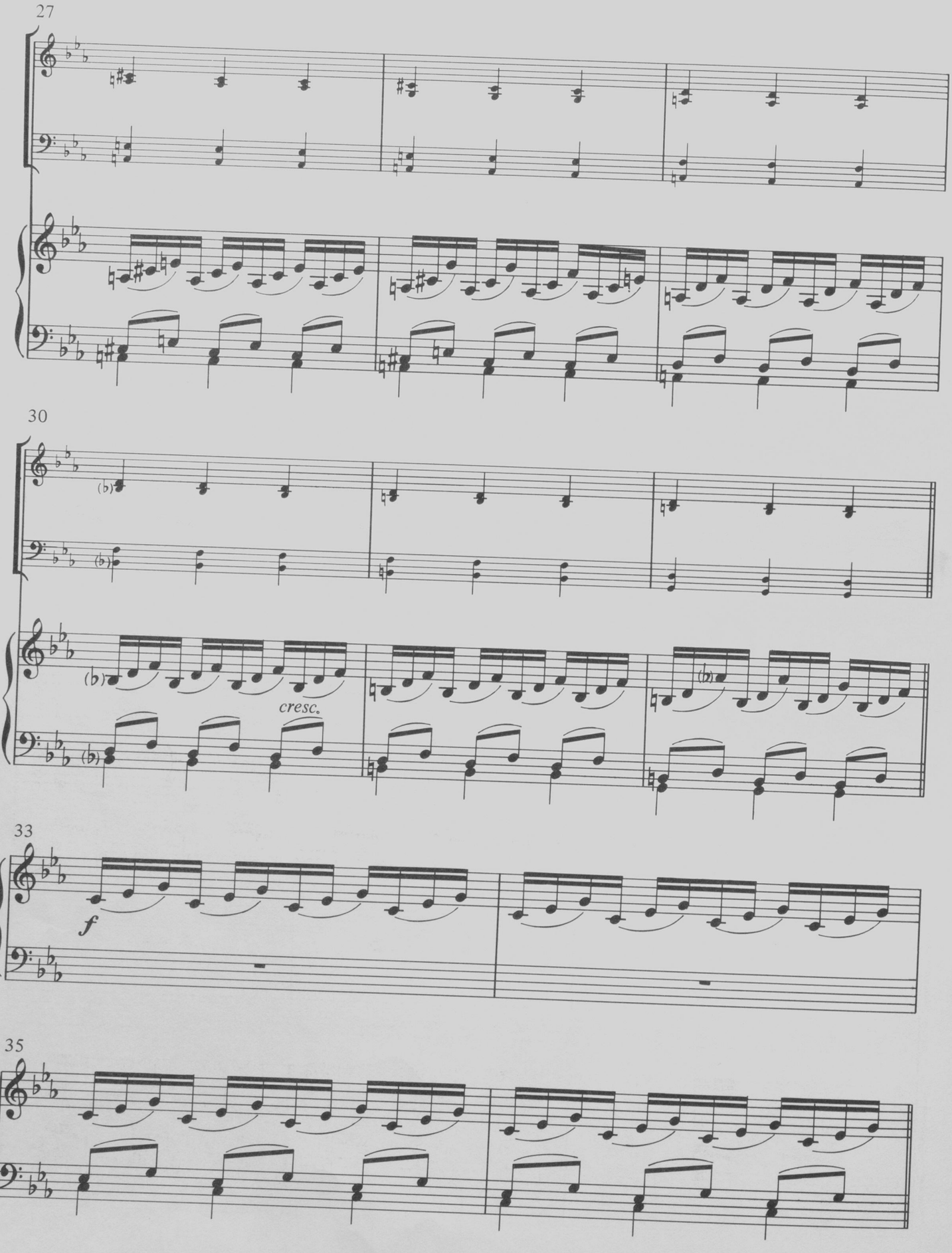
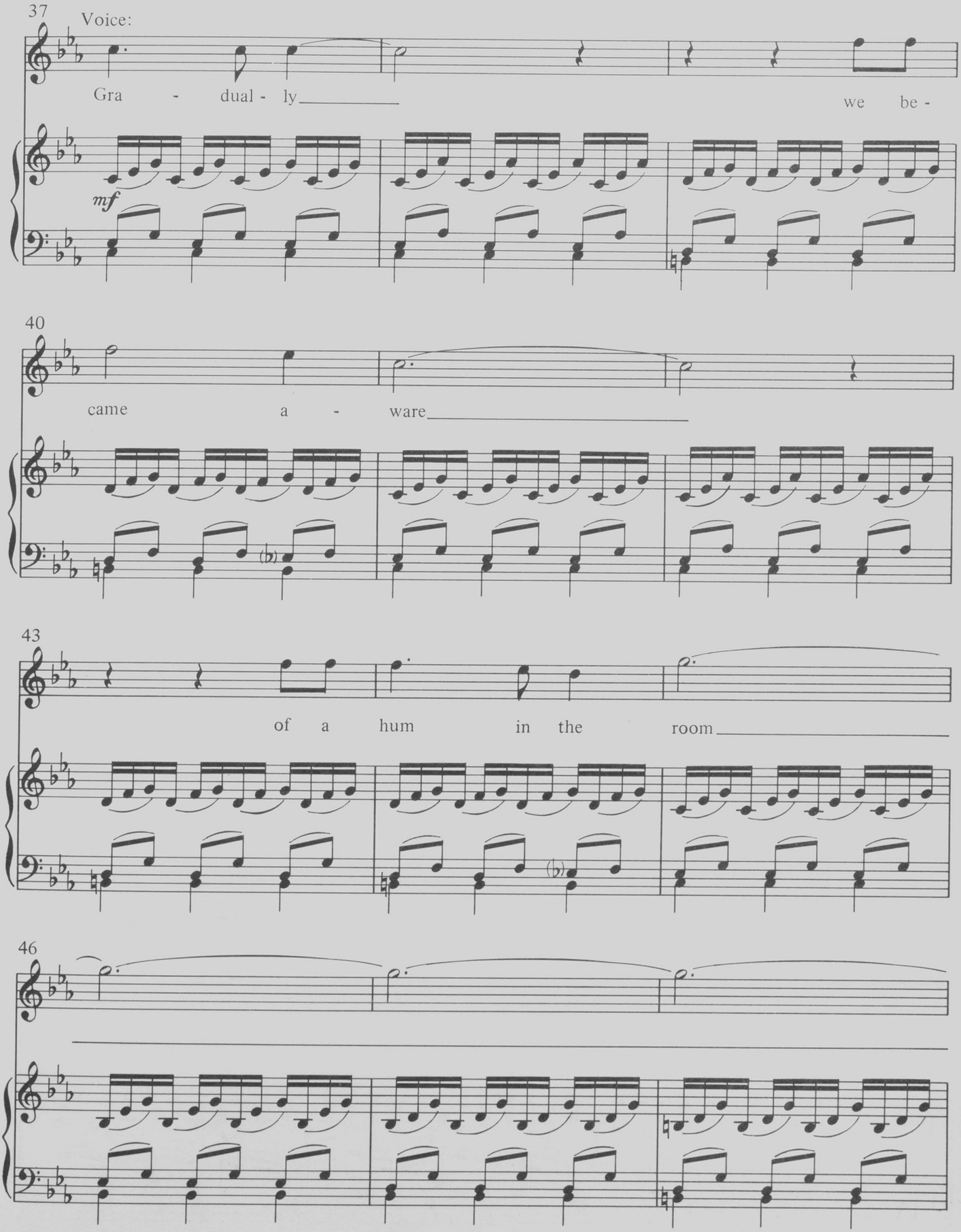
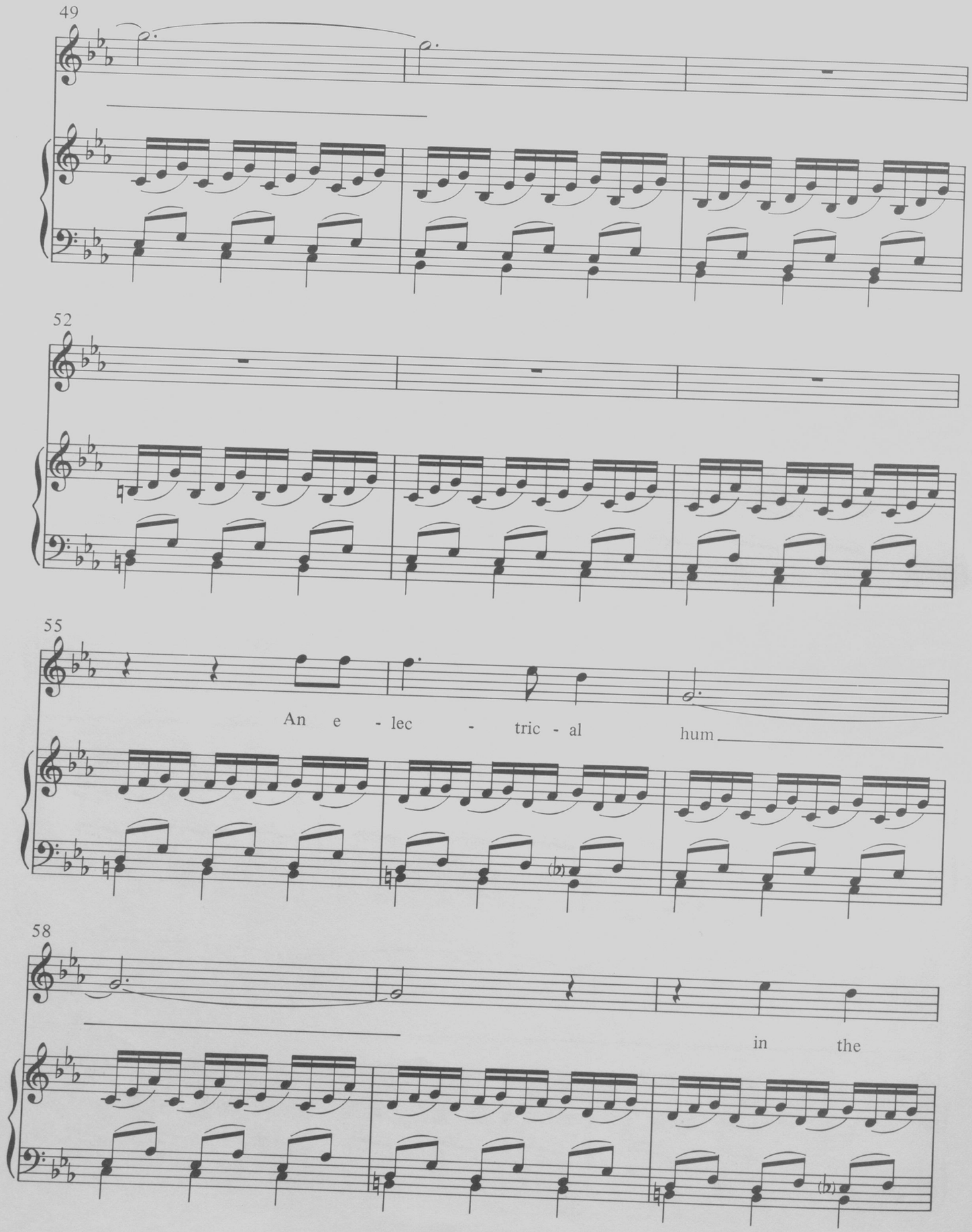
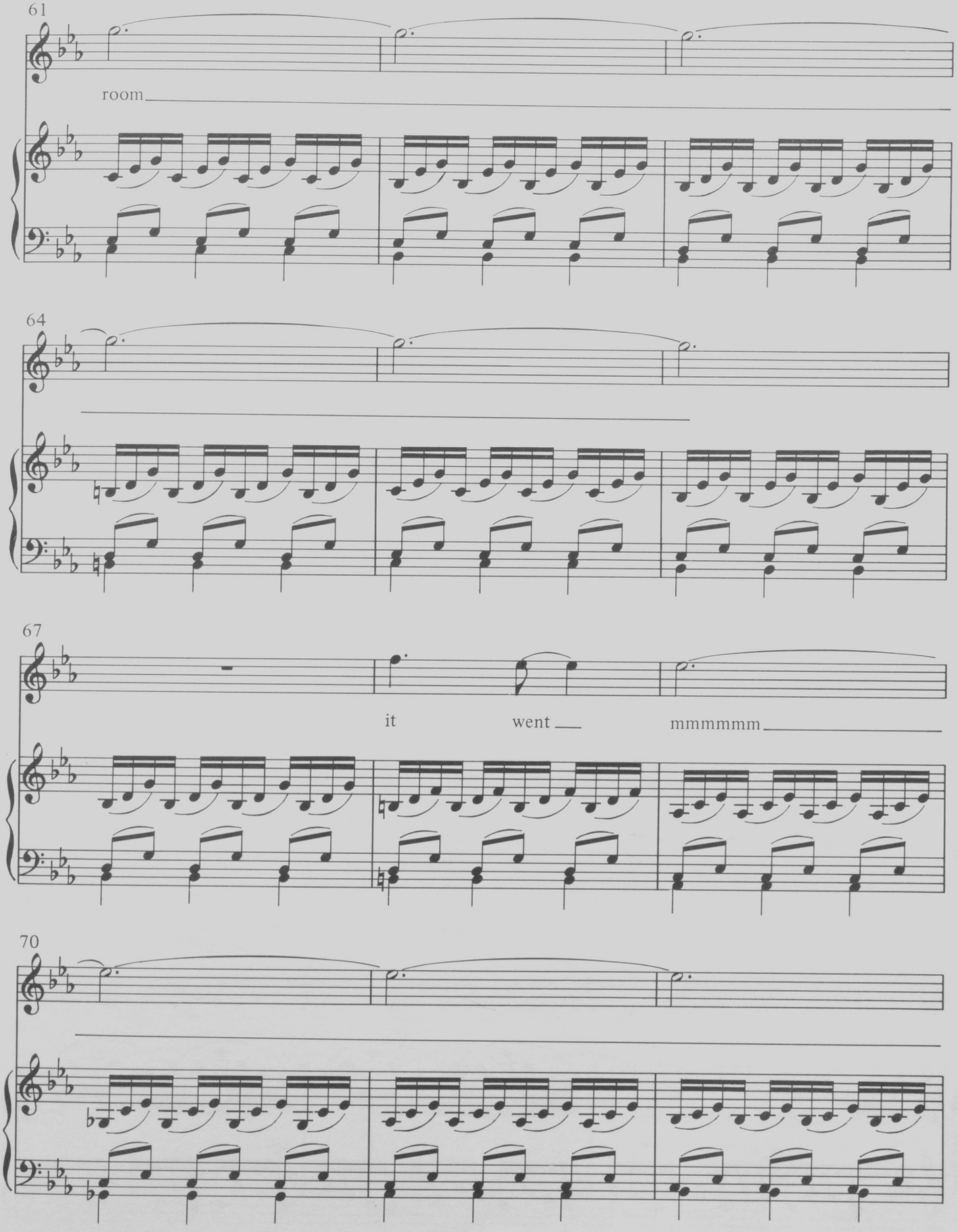

9
f
11
13
15
(♭)

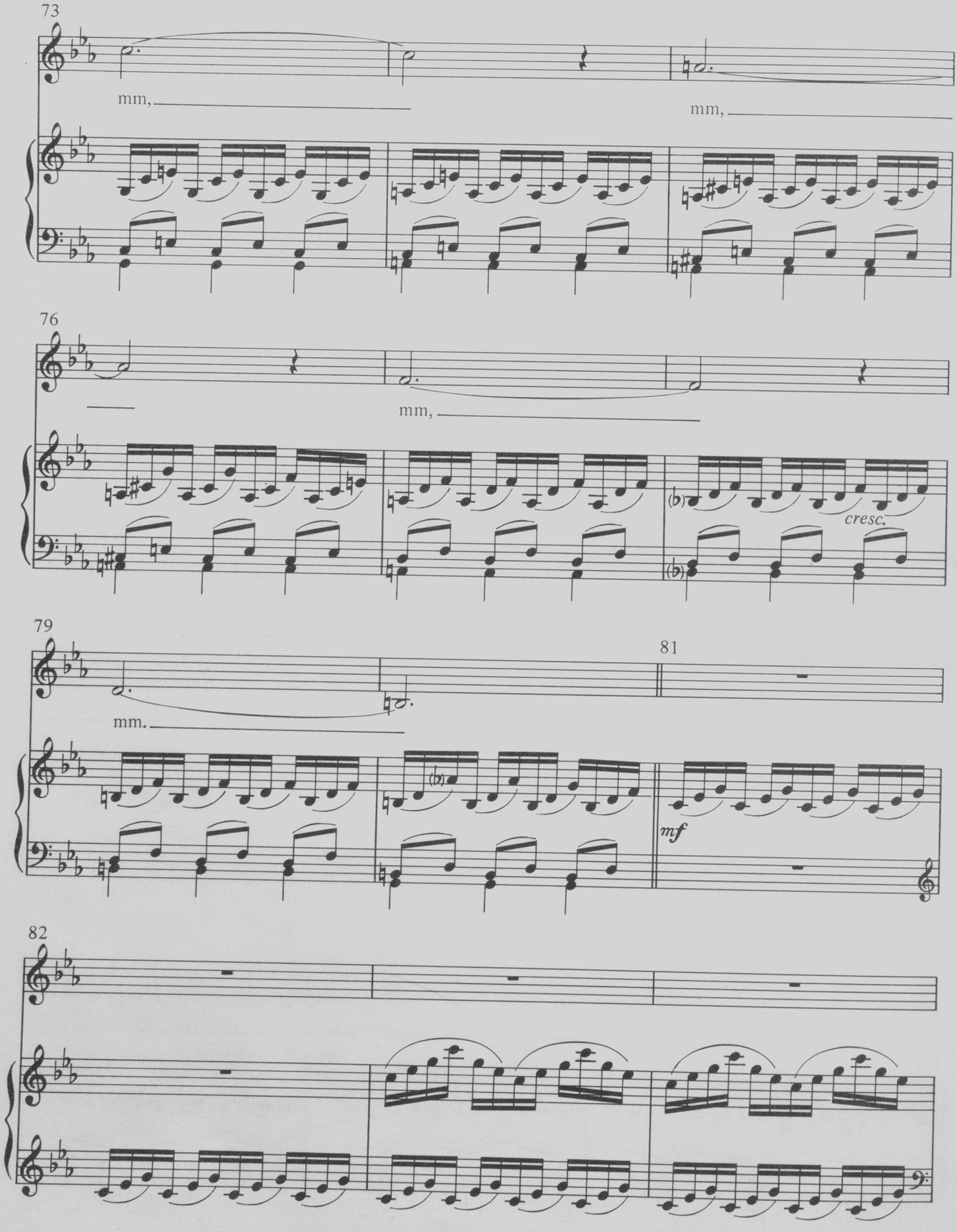

17
19
21
(Brass)
p
simile
mf
24

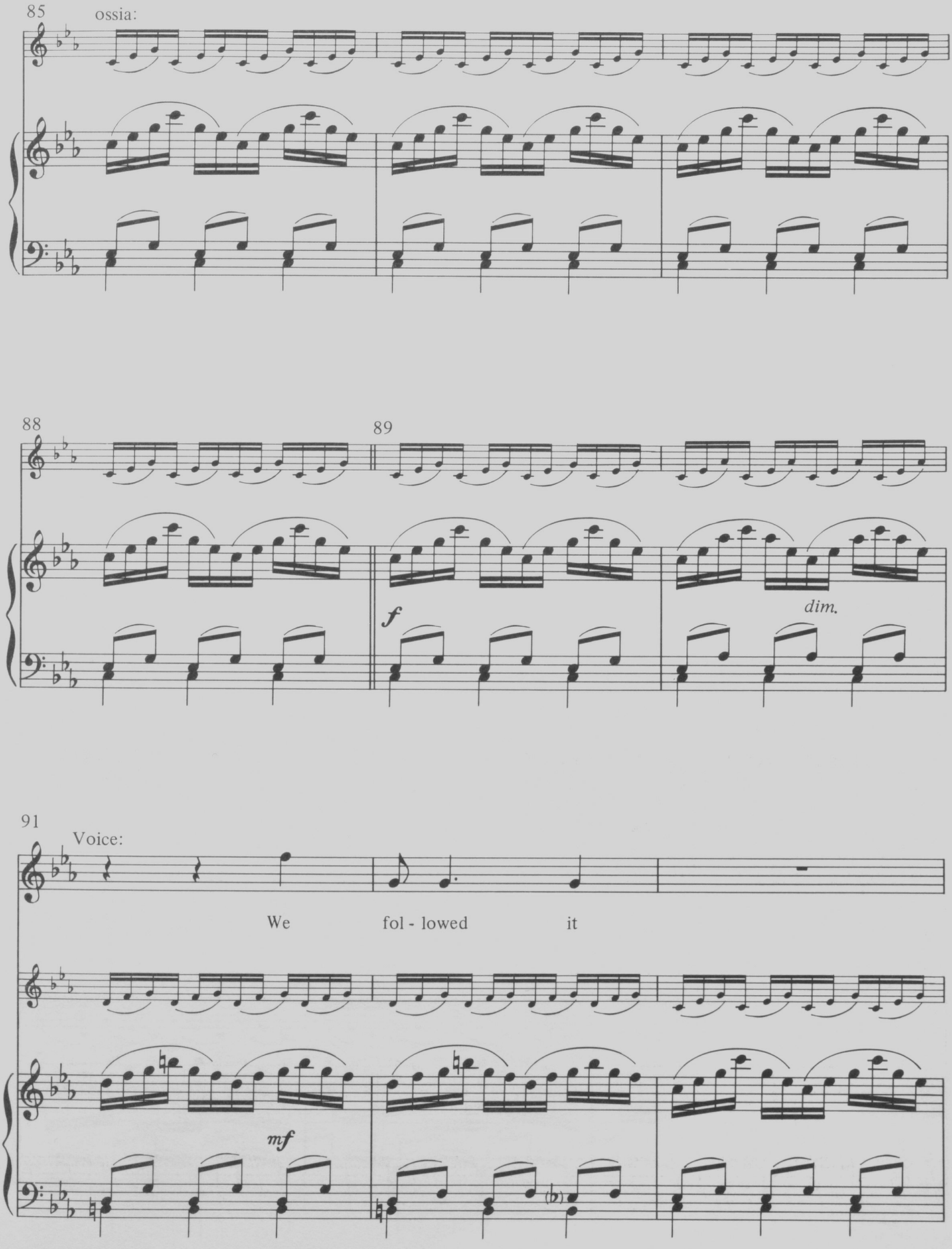

27
30
cresc.
33
f
35

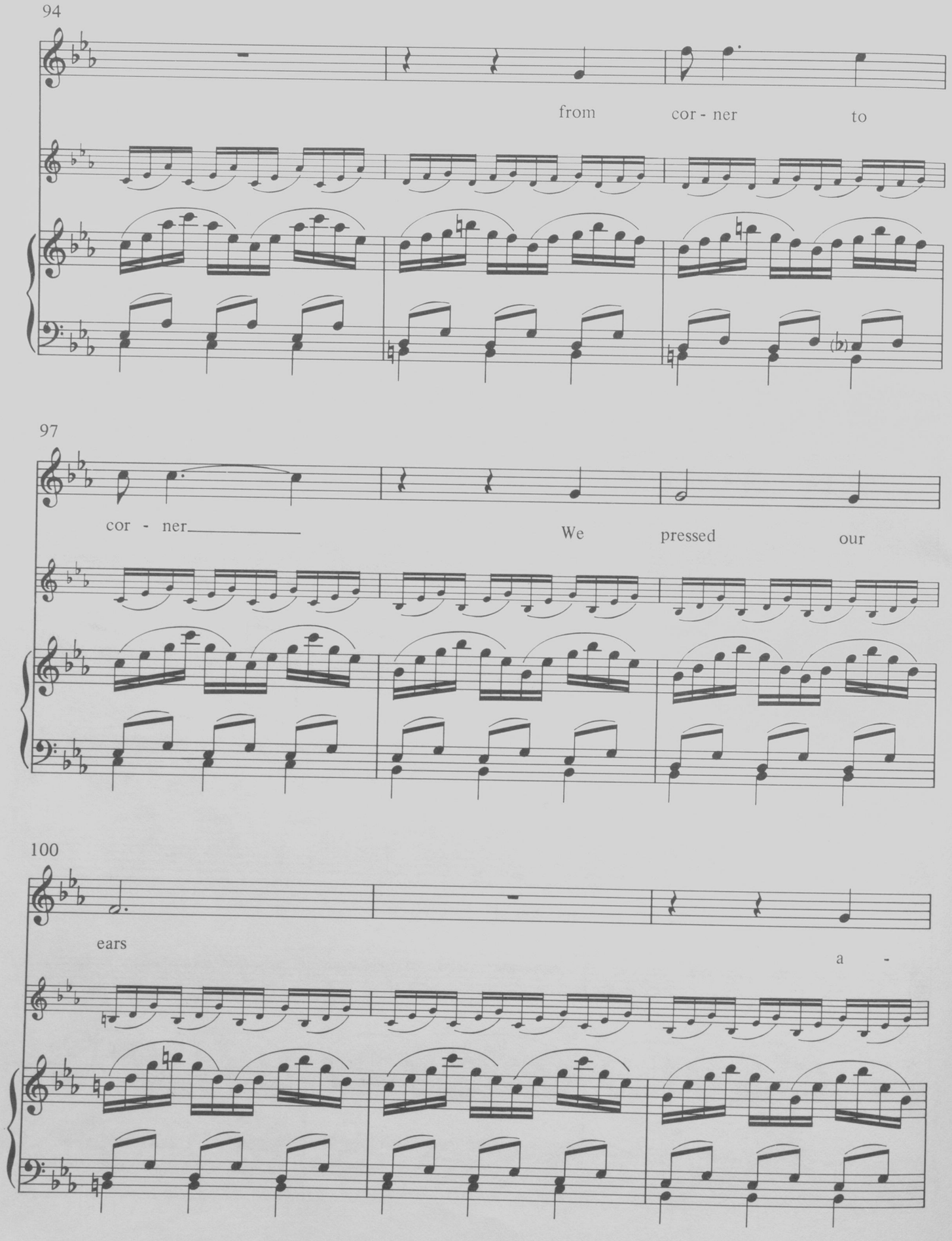

37
Voice:
Gra - dual - ly
we be -
mf
40
came a - ware
43
of a hum in the room
46

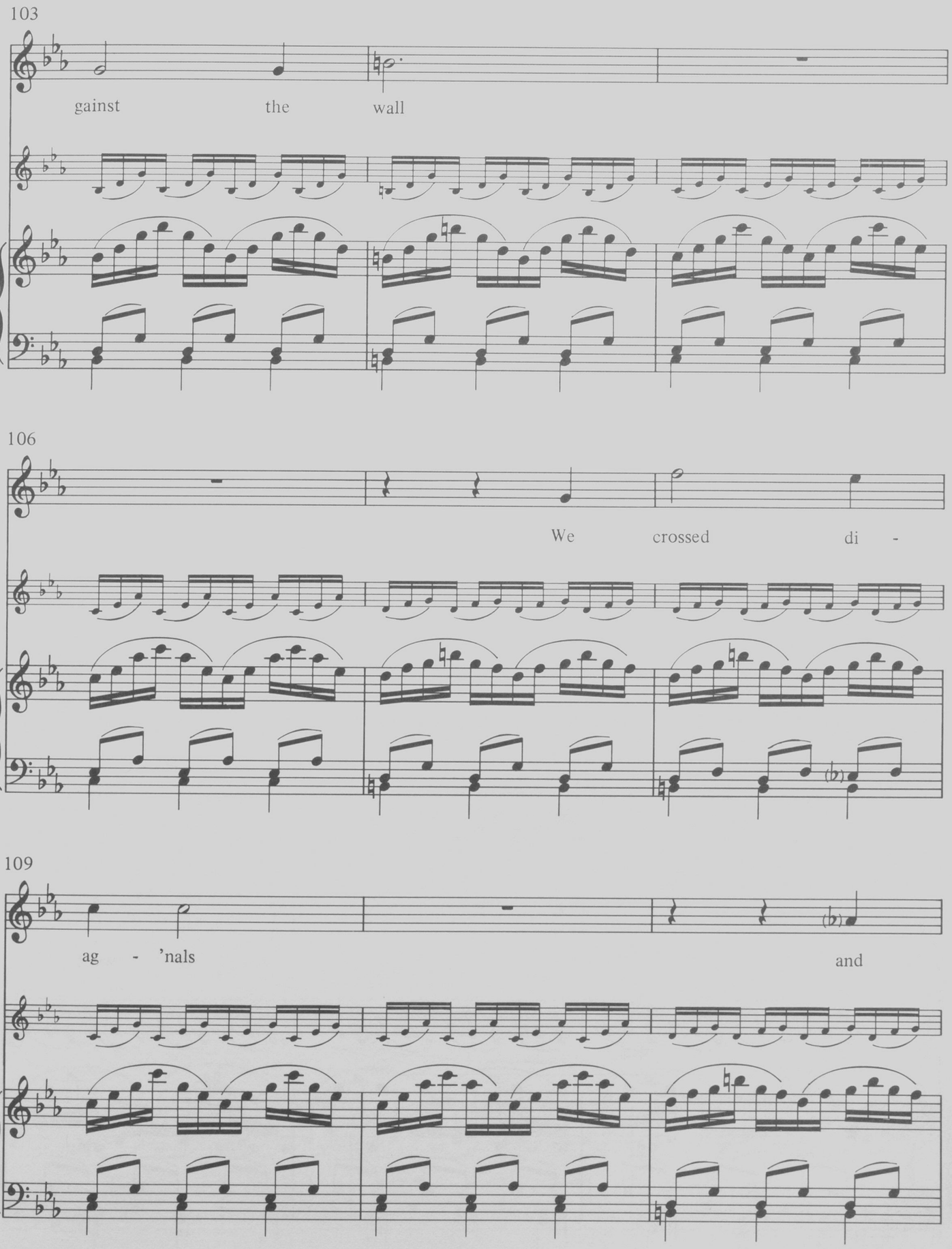

49
52
55
An e - lec - tric - al hum
58
in the

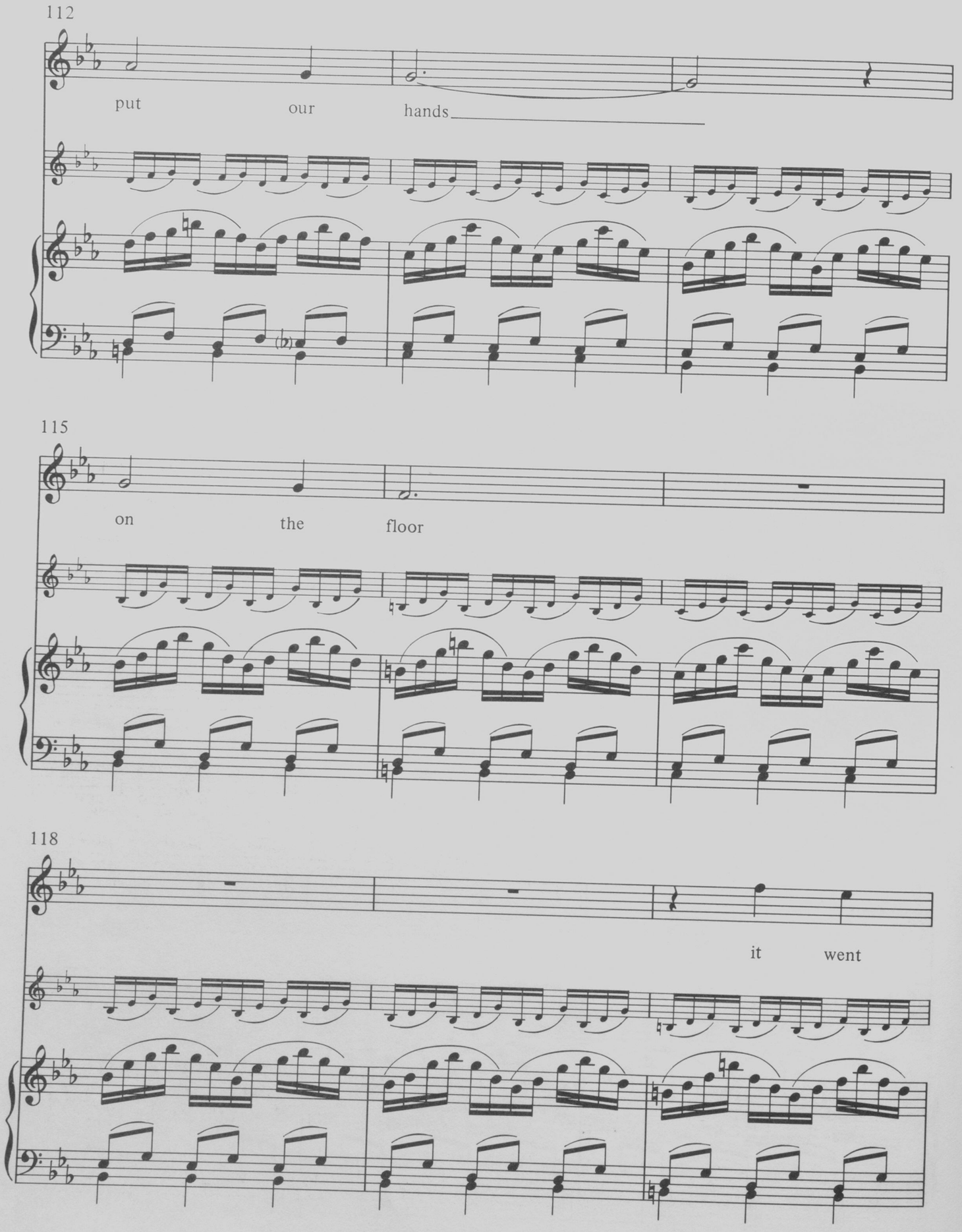

61
room
64
67
it
went
mmmmmm
70

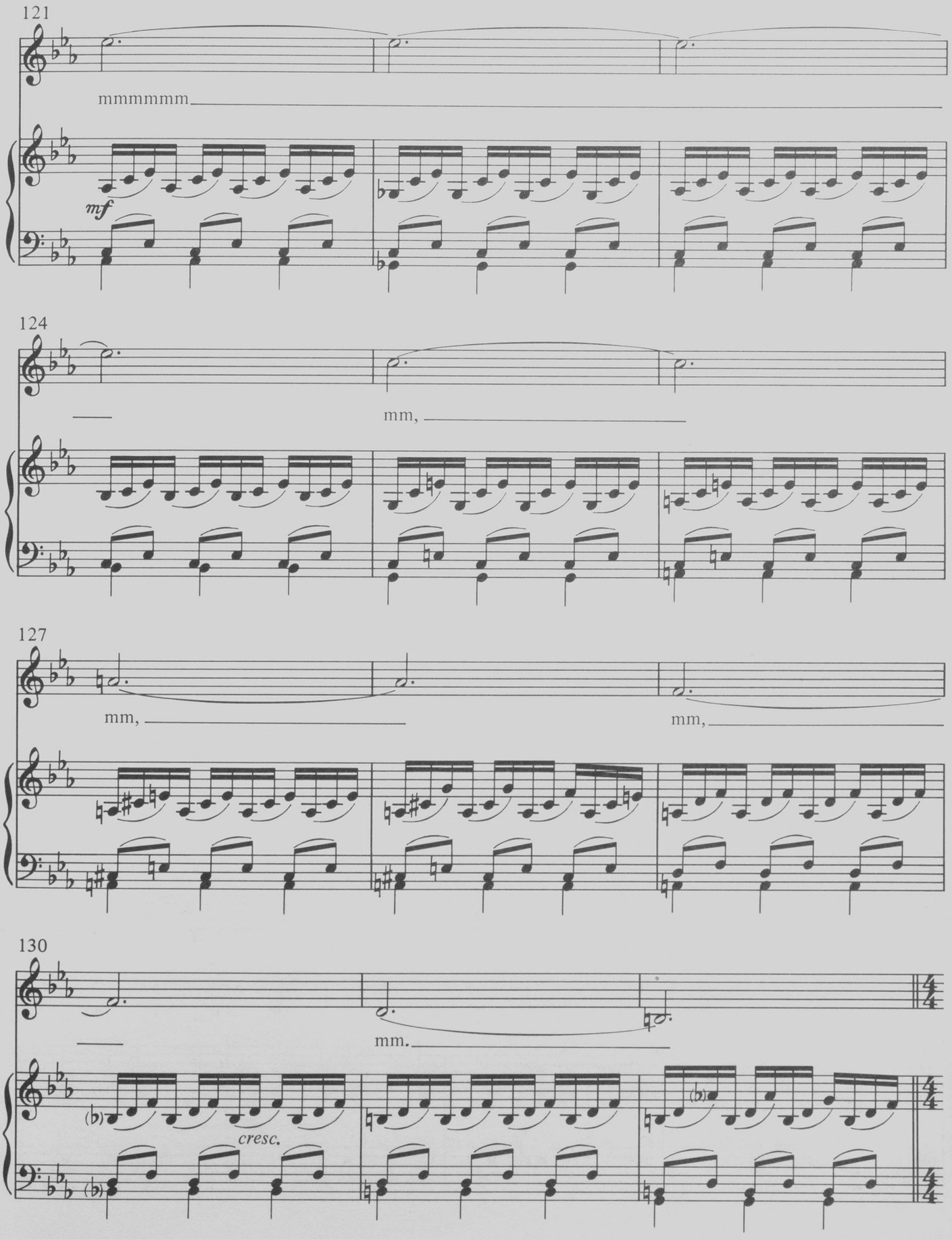

73
mm,
mm,
76
mm,
cresc.
79
mm.
81
mf
82

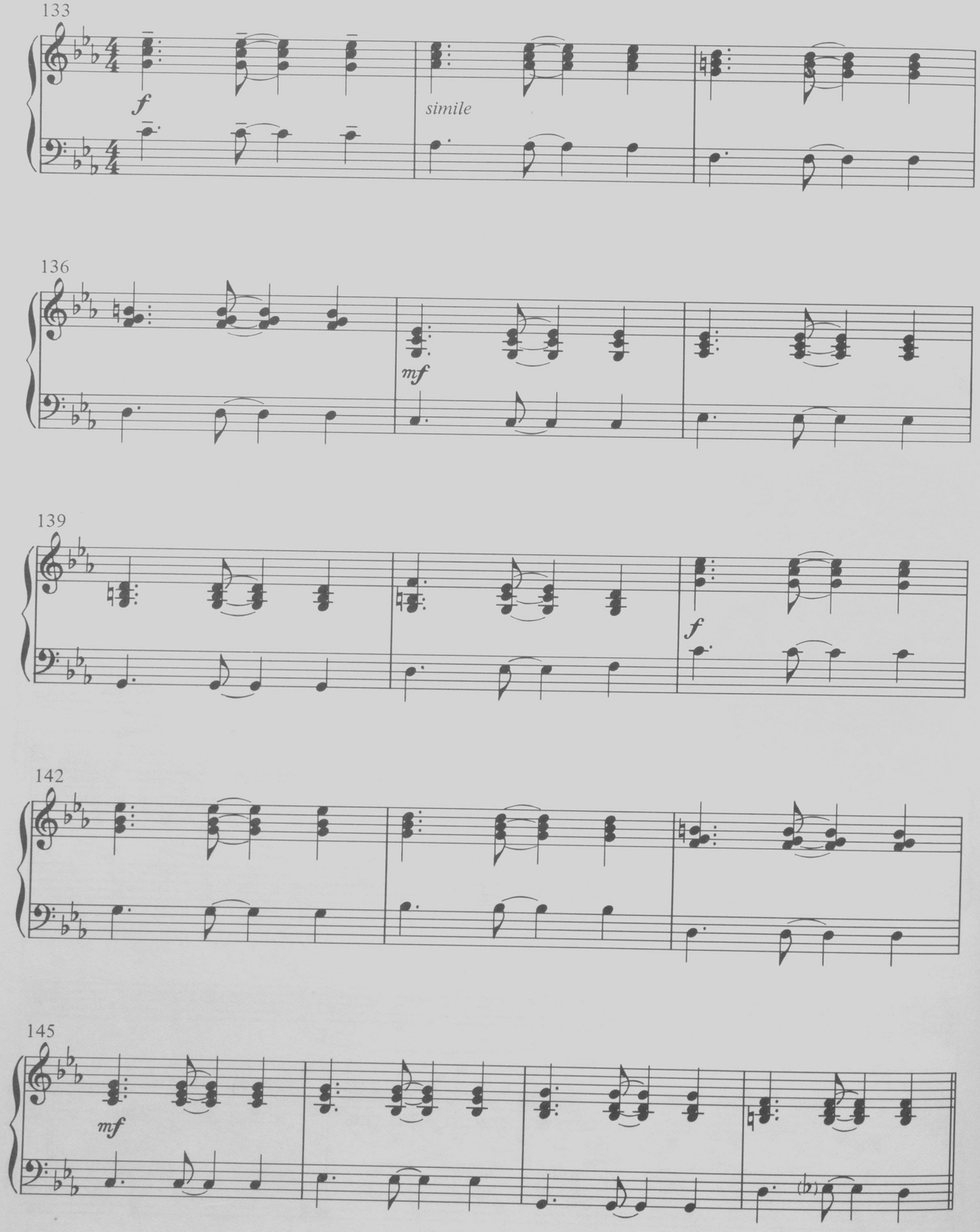

85
ossia:
88
89
f
dim.
91
Voice:
We
fol - lowed
it
mf

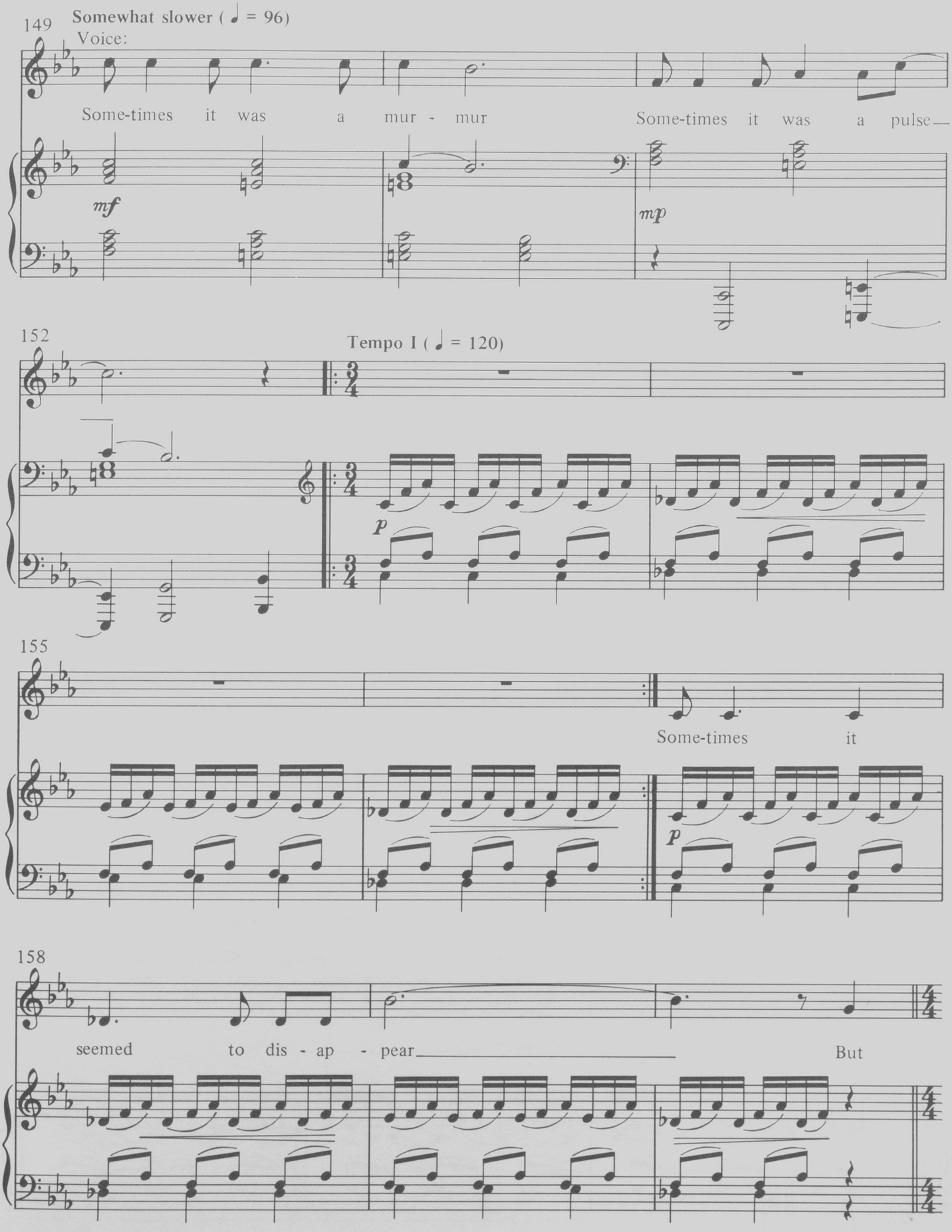

94
from cor - ner to
97
cor - ner
We pressed our
100
ears
a -

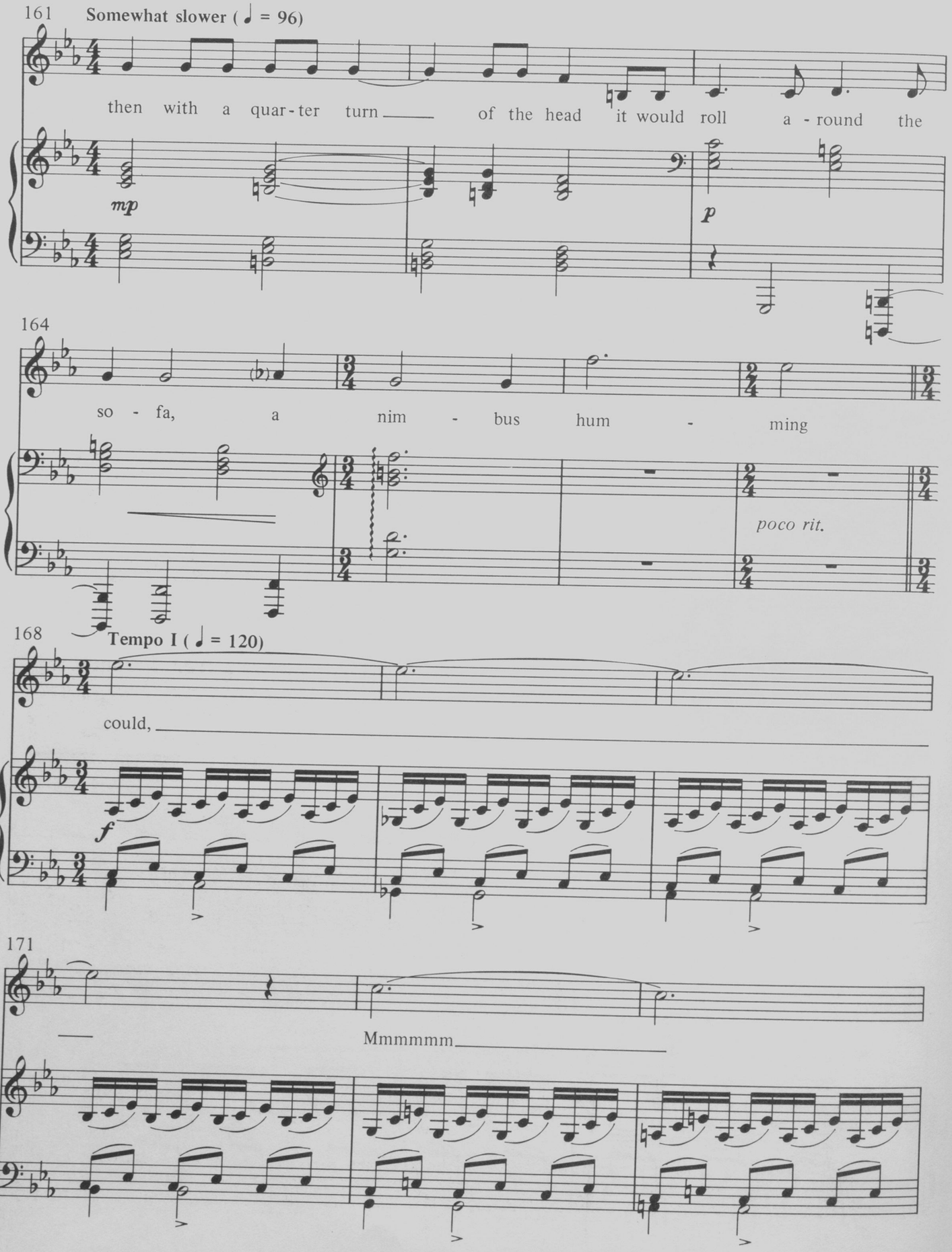

103
gainst the wall
106
We crossed di -
109
ag - 'nals and

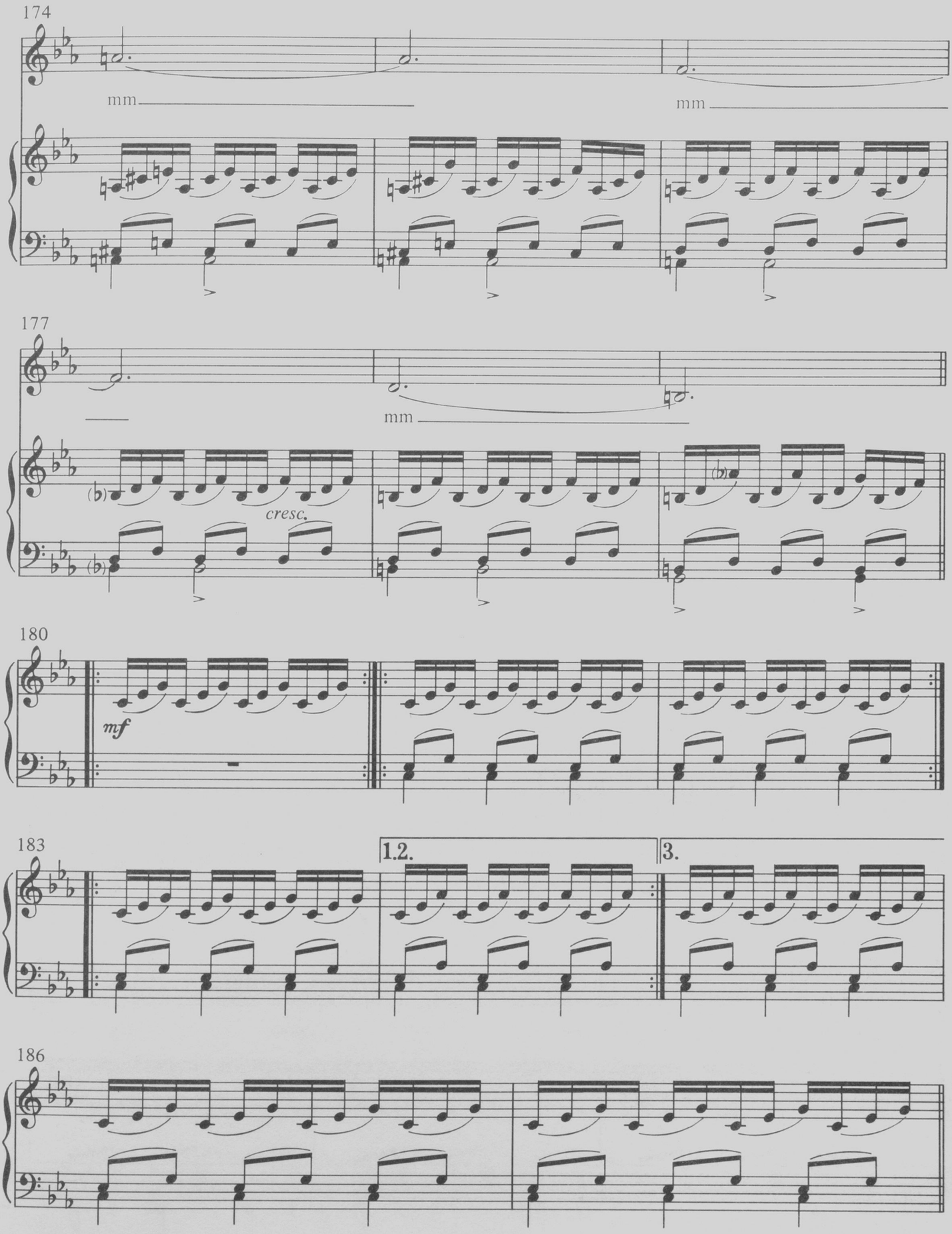

112
put
our
hands
115
on
the
floor
118
it
went

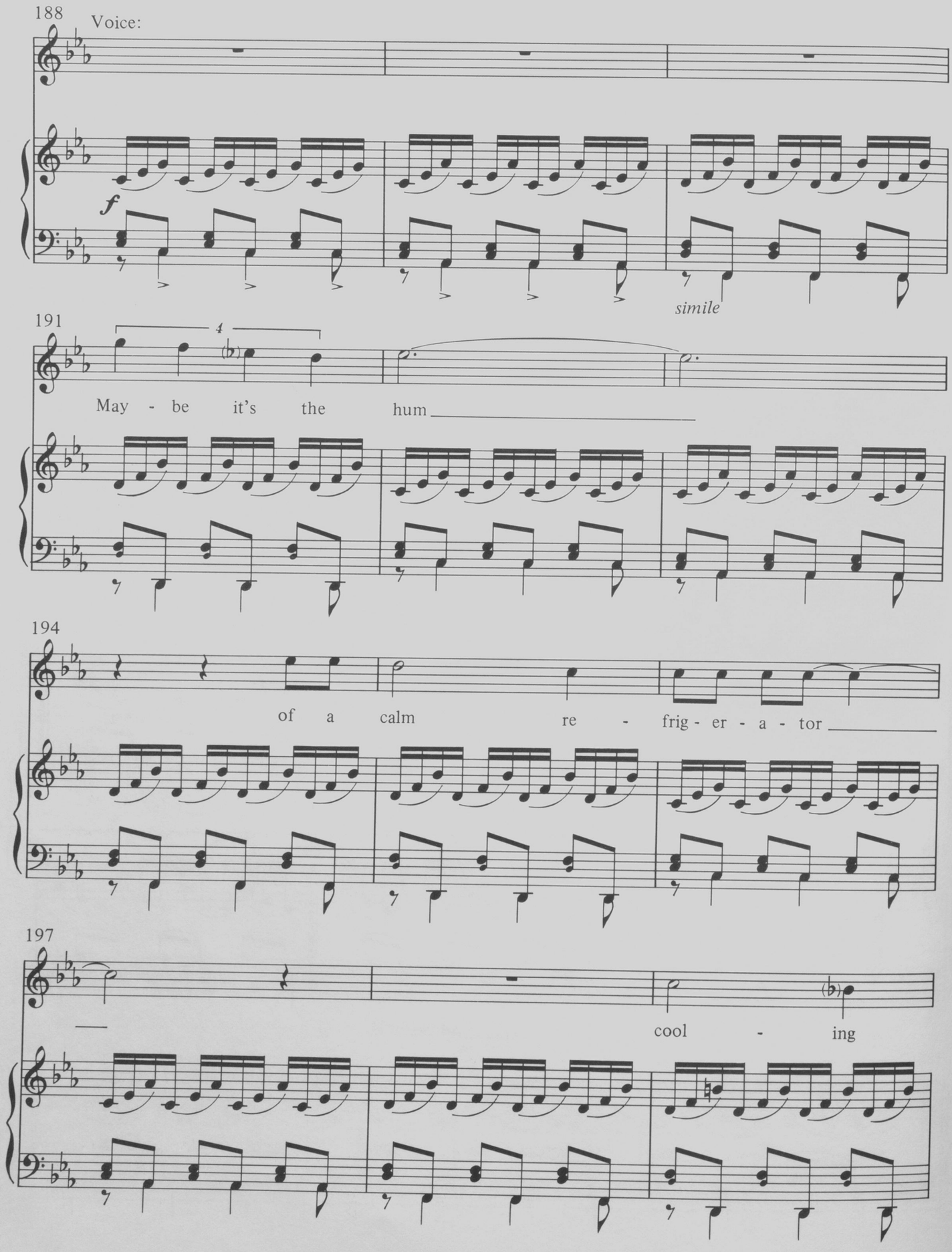

121
mmmmmm
mf
124
mm,
127
mm,
mm,
130
mm.
cresc.

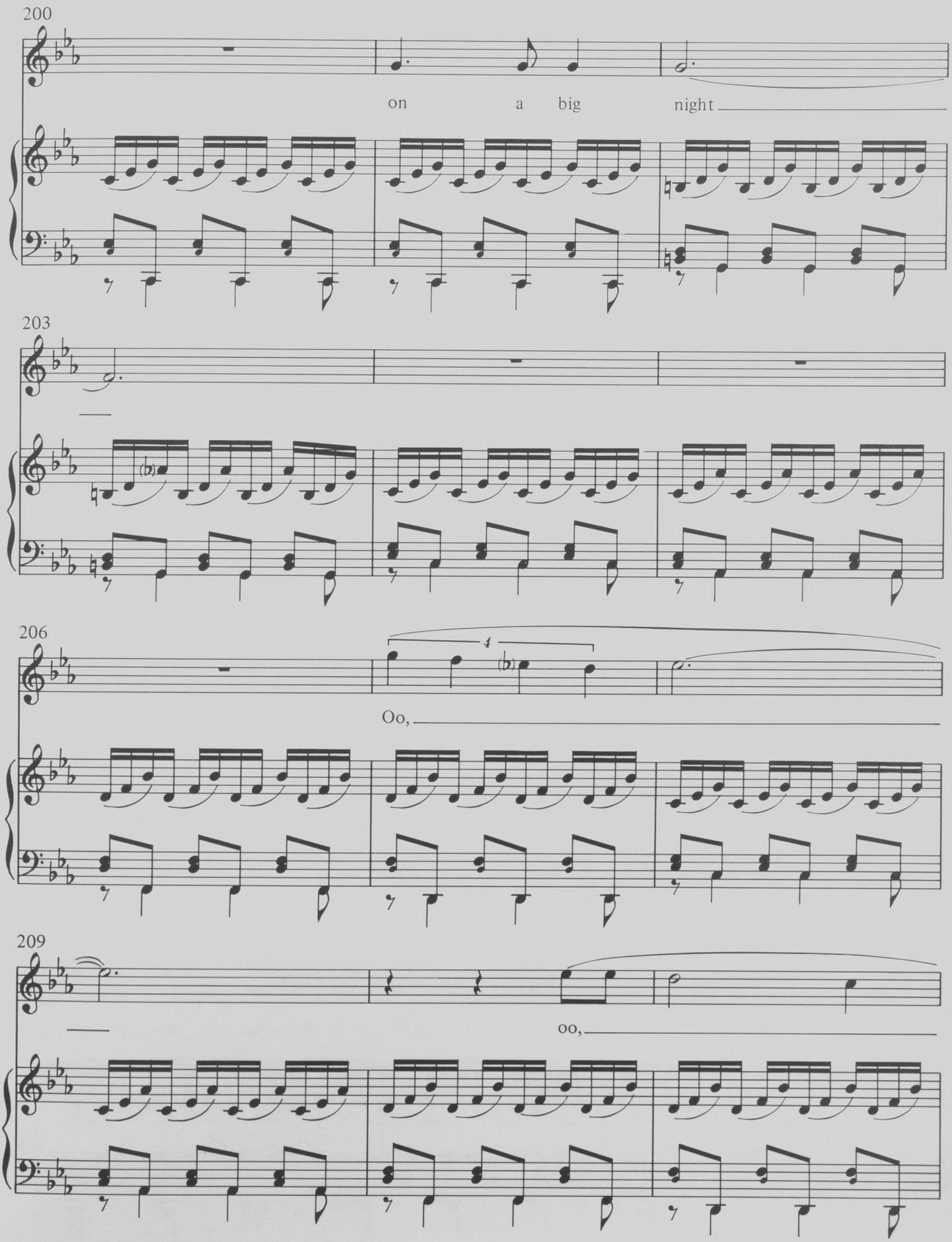

133
f
simile
136
mf
139
f
142
145
mf

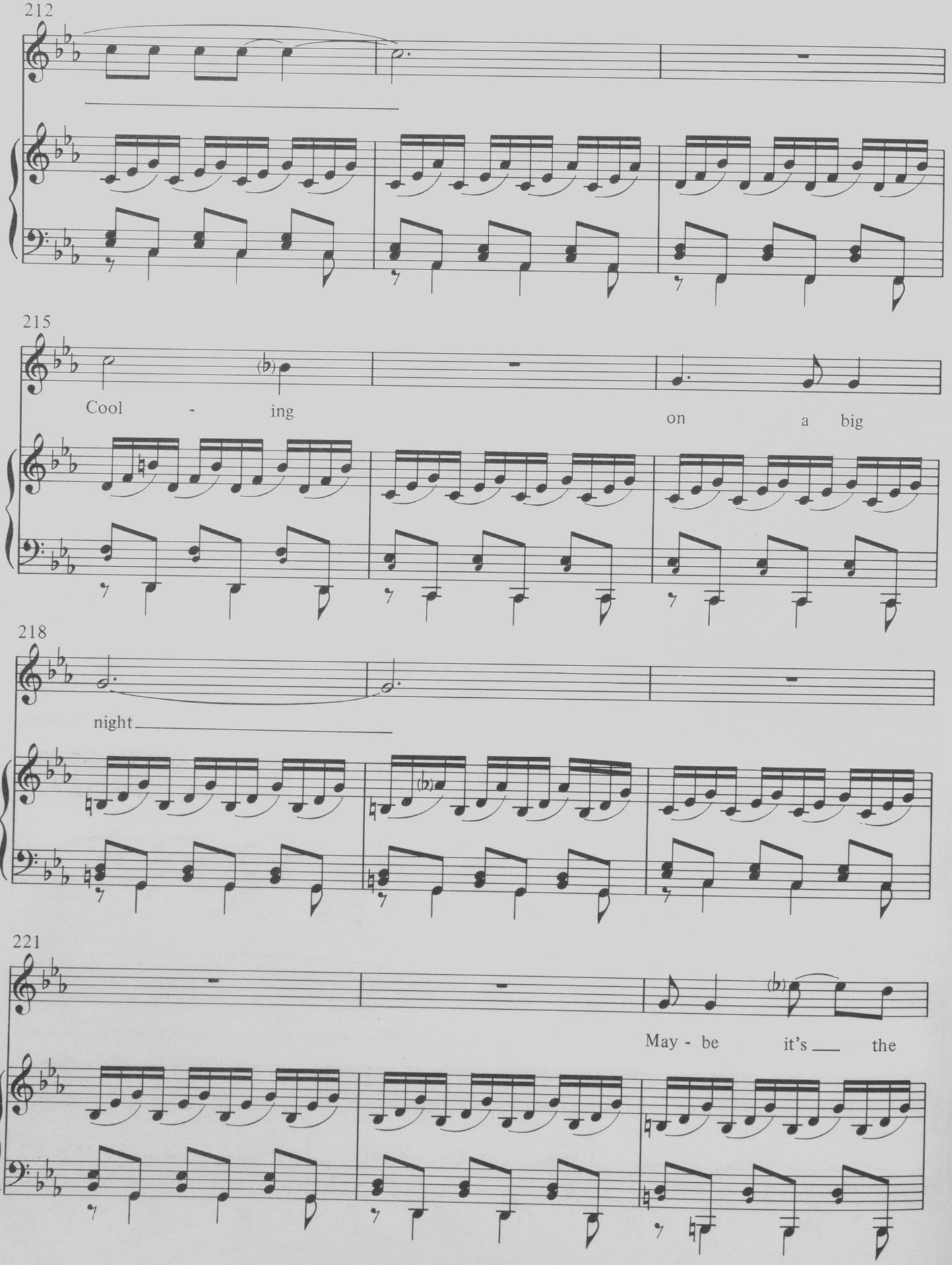

149
Somewhat slower (♩ = 96)
Voice:
Some-times it was a mur - mur
Some-times it was a pulse—
mf
mp
152
Tempo I (♩ = 120)
p
155
Some-times it
p
158
seemed to dis - ap - pear
But

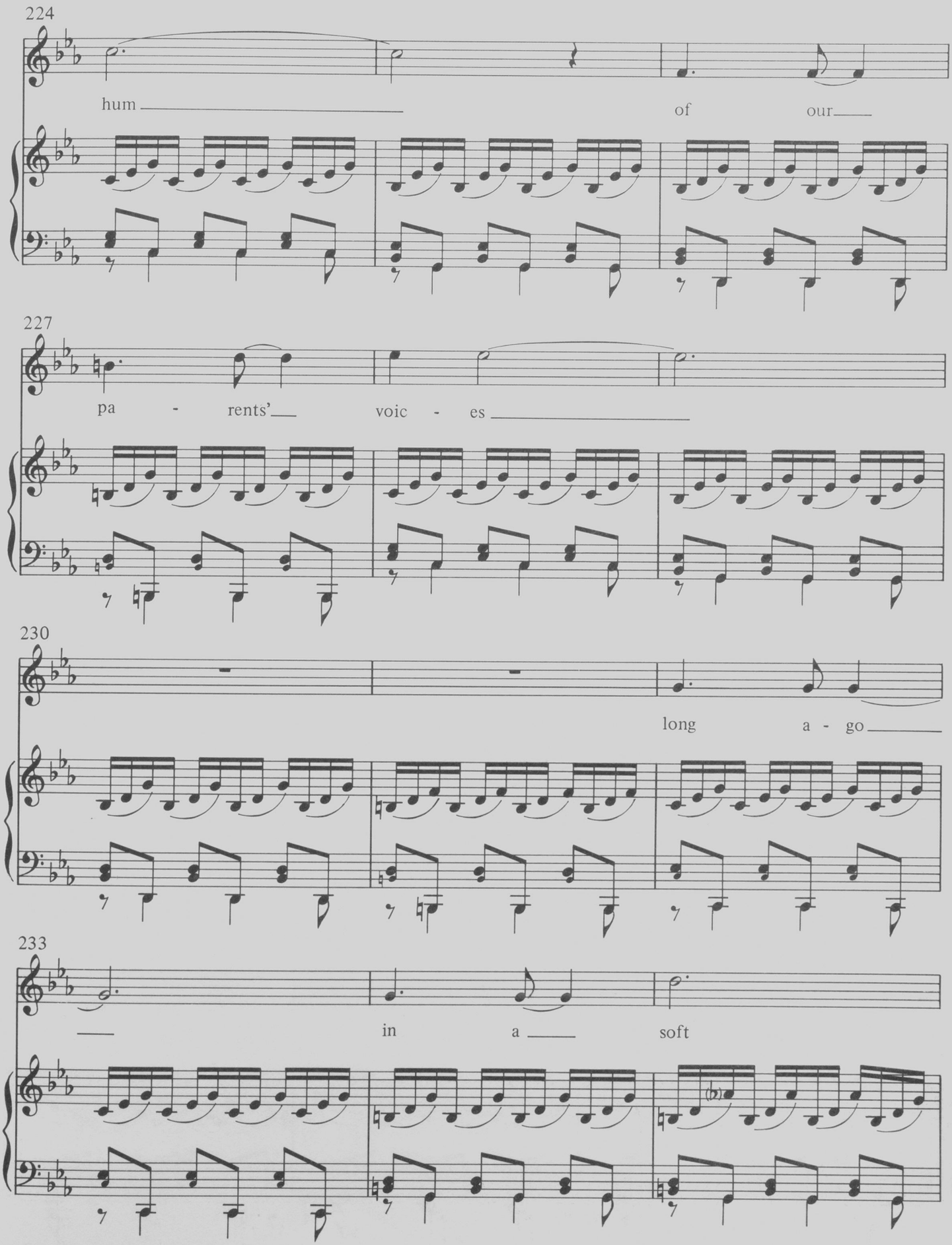

161
Somewhat slower (♩ = 96)
then with a quar - ter turn of the head it would roll a - round the
mp
p
164
so - fa, a nim - bus hum - ming
poco rit.
168
Tempo I (♩ = 120)
could,
f
171
Mmmmmm

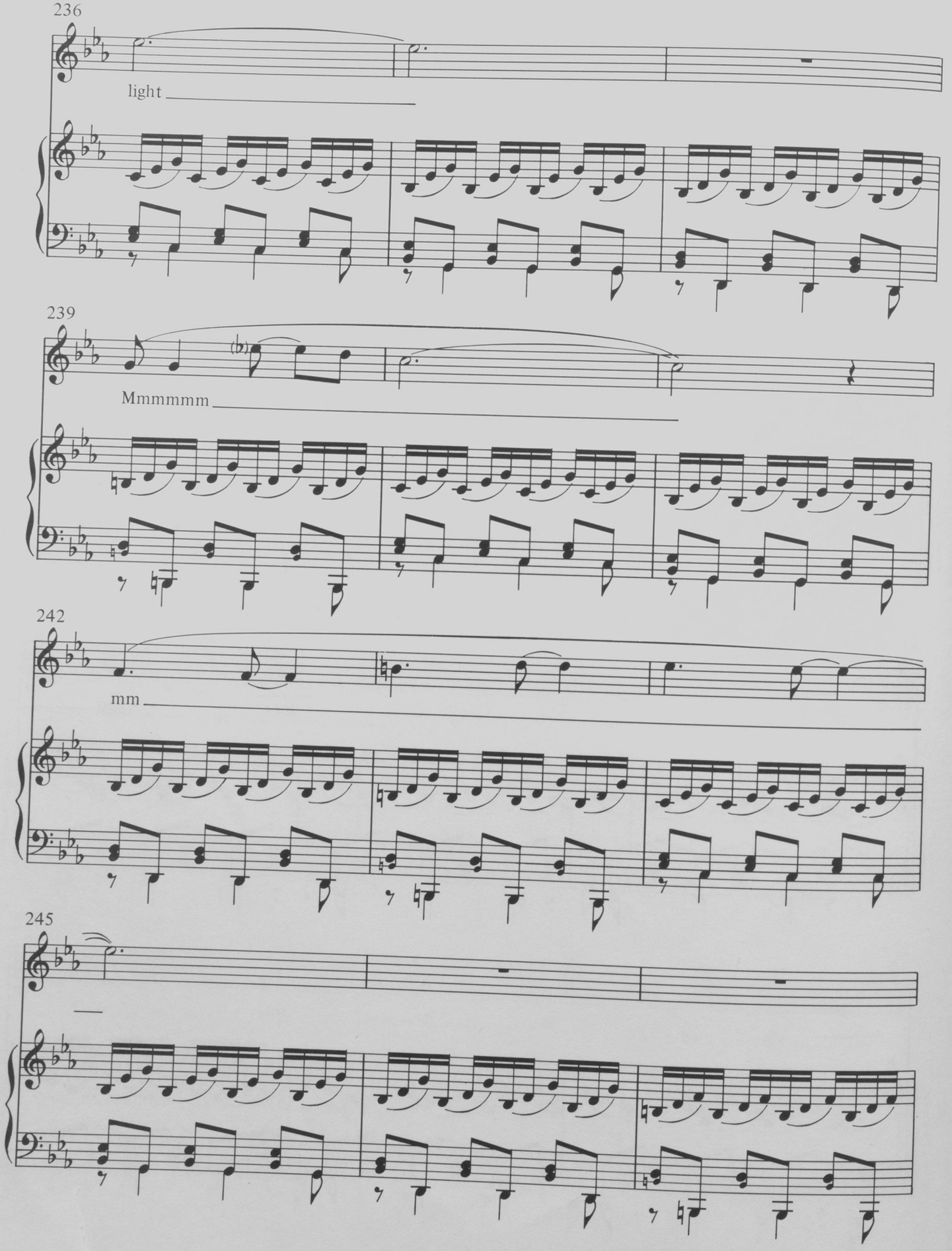

174
mm
mm
177
mm
cresc.
180
mf
183
1.2.
3.
186

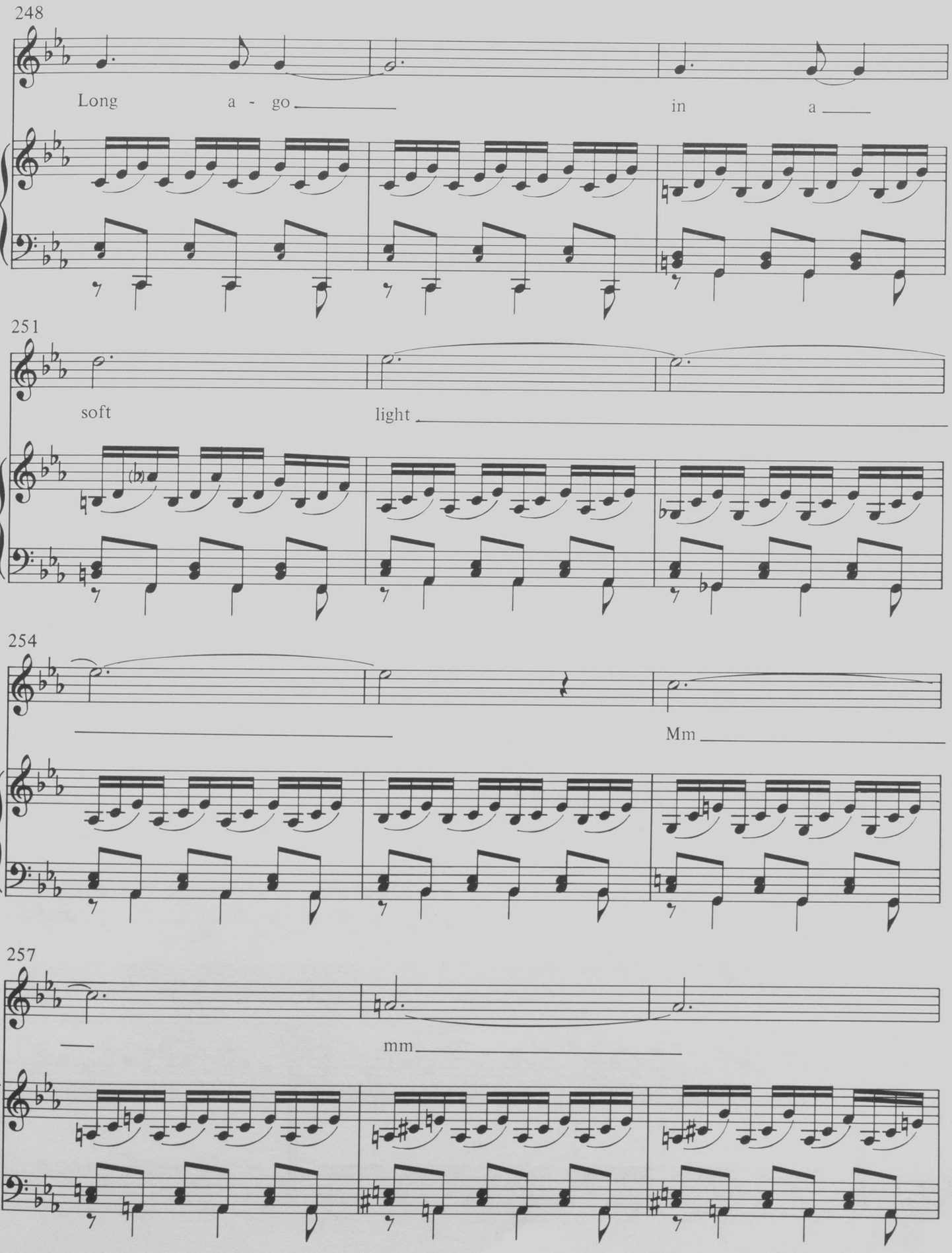

188
Voice:
f
simile
191
4
May - be it's the hum
194
of a calm re - frig - er - a - tor
197
cool - ing

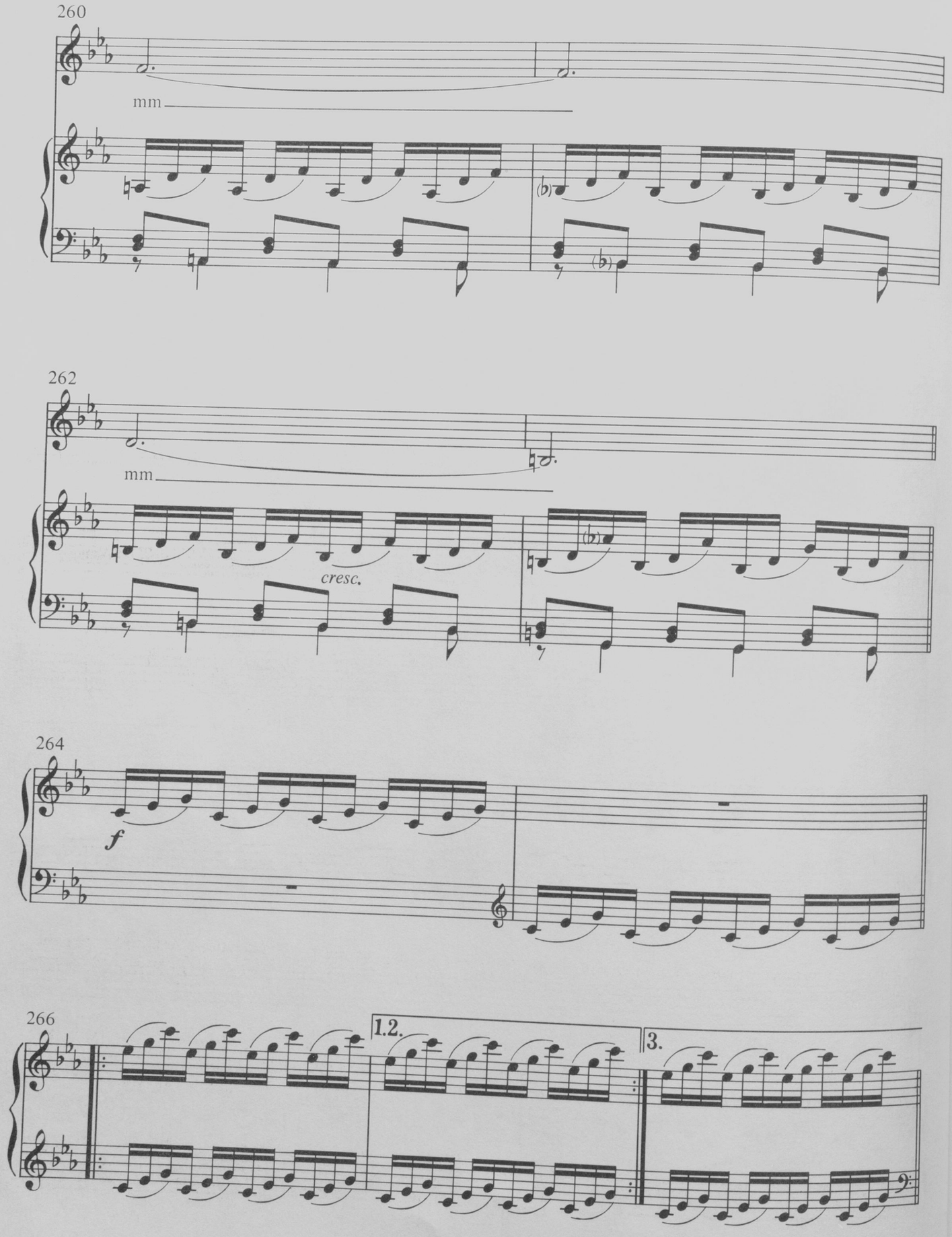

200
on a big night
203
206
4
Oo,
209
oo,

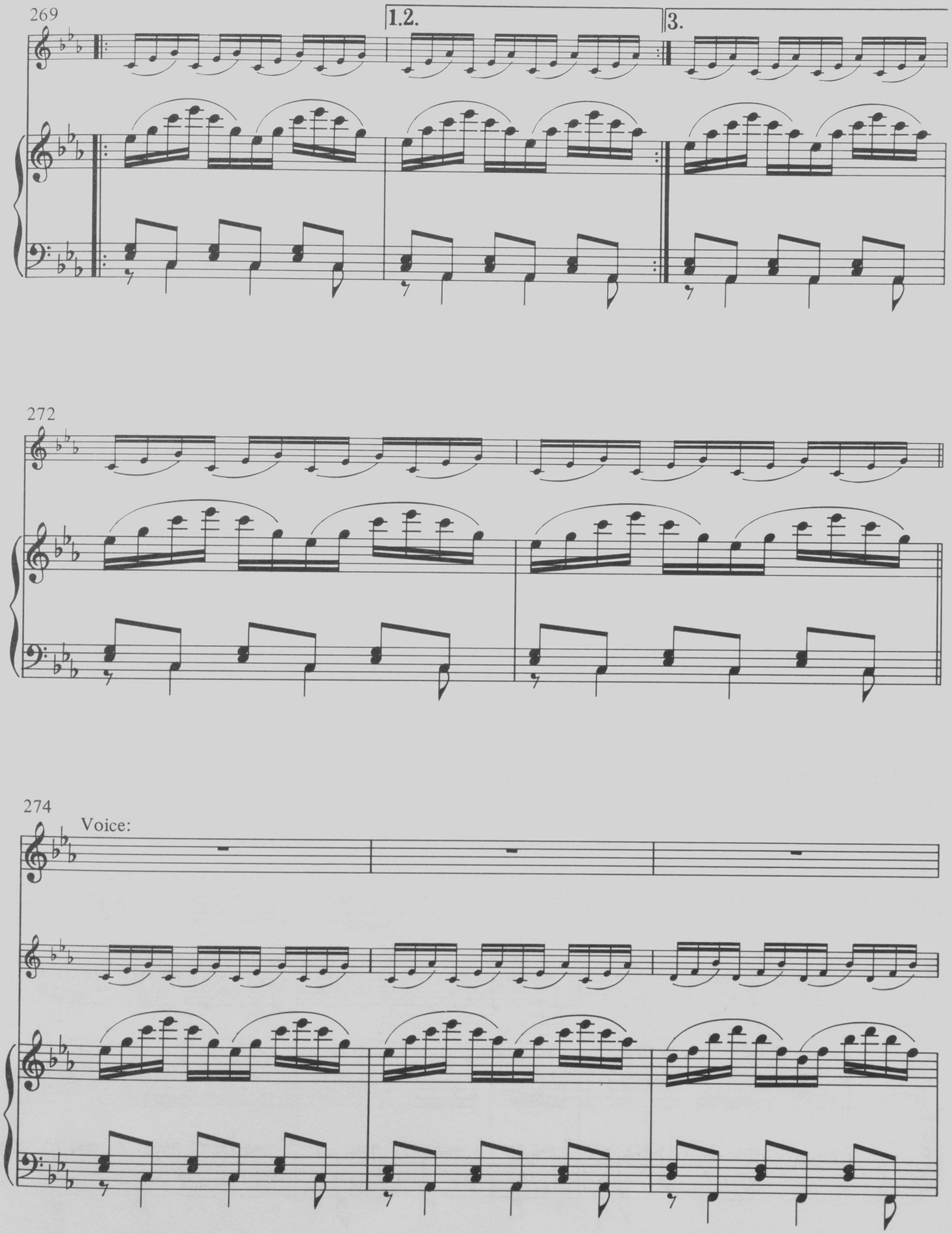

212
215
Cool - ing
on a big
218
night
221
May - be it's the

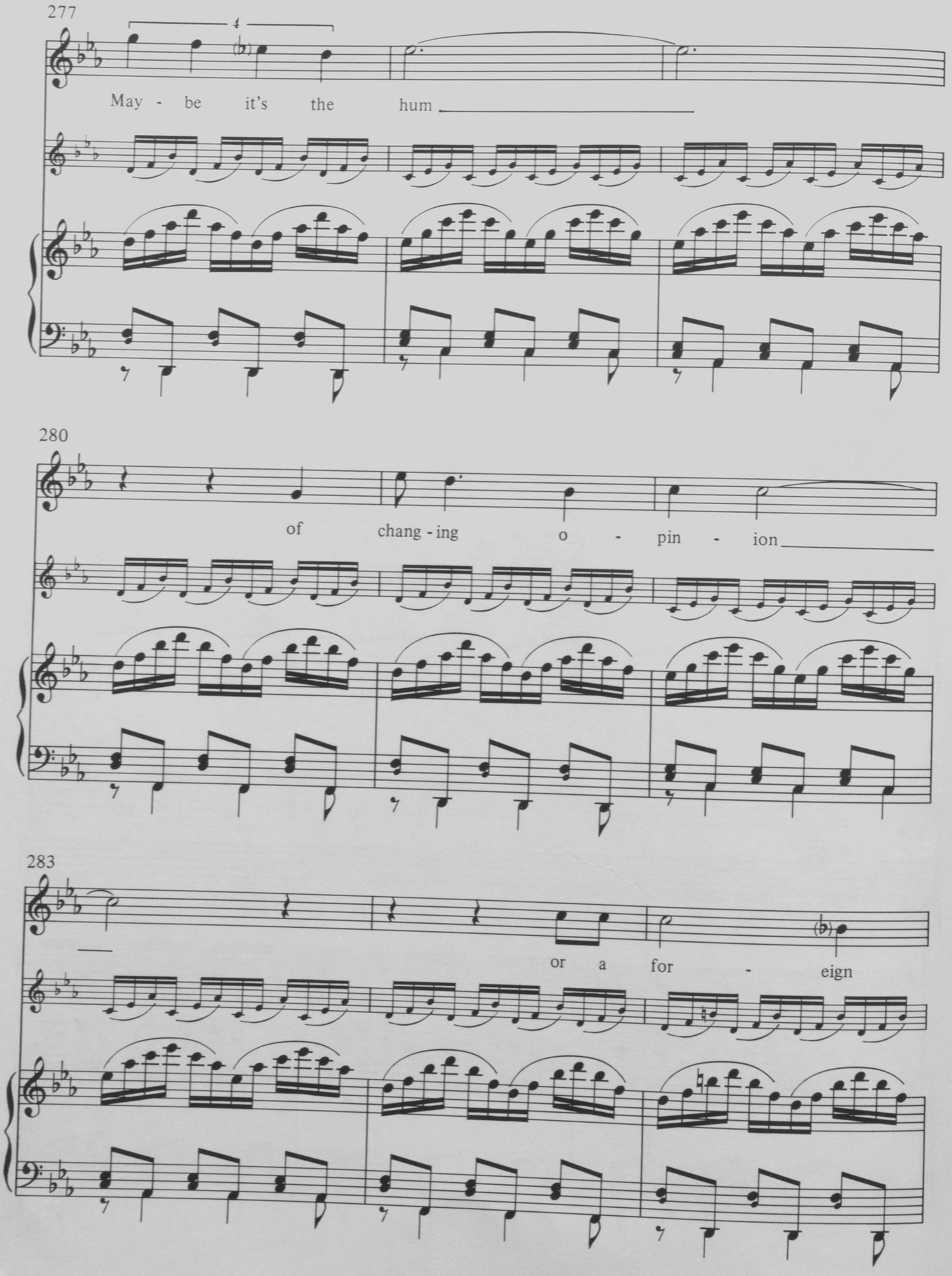

224
hum
of
our
227
pa - rents'
voic - es
230
long
a - go
233
in
a
soft

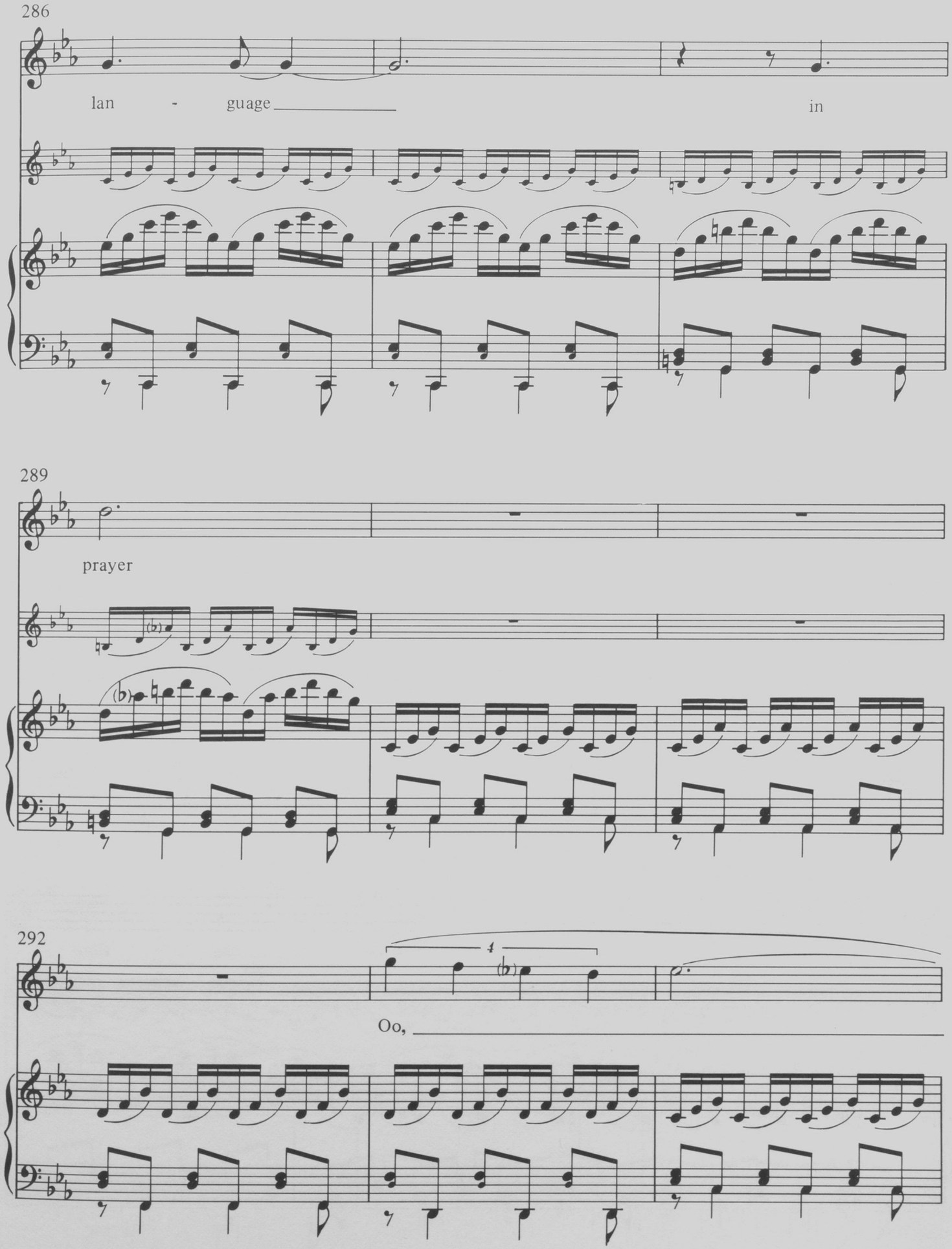

236
light
239
Mmmmmm
242
mm
245

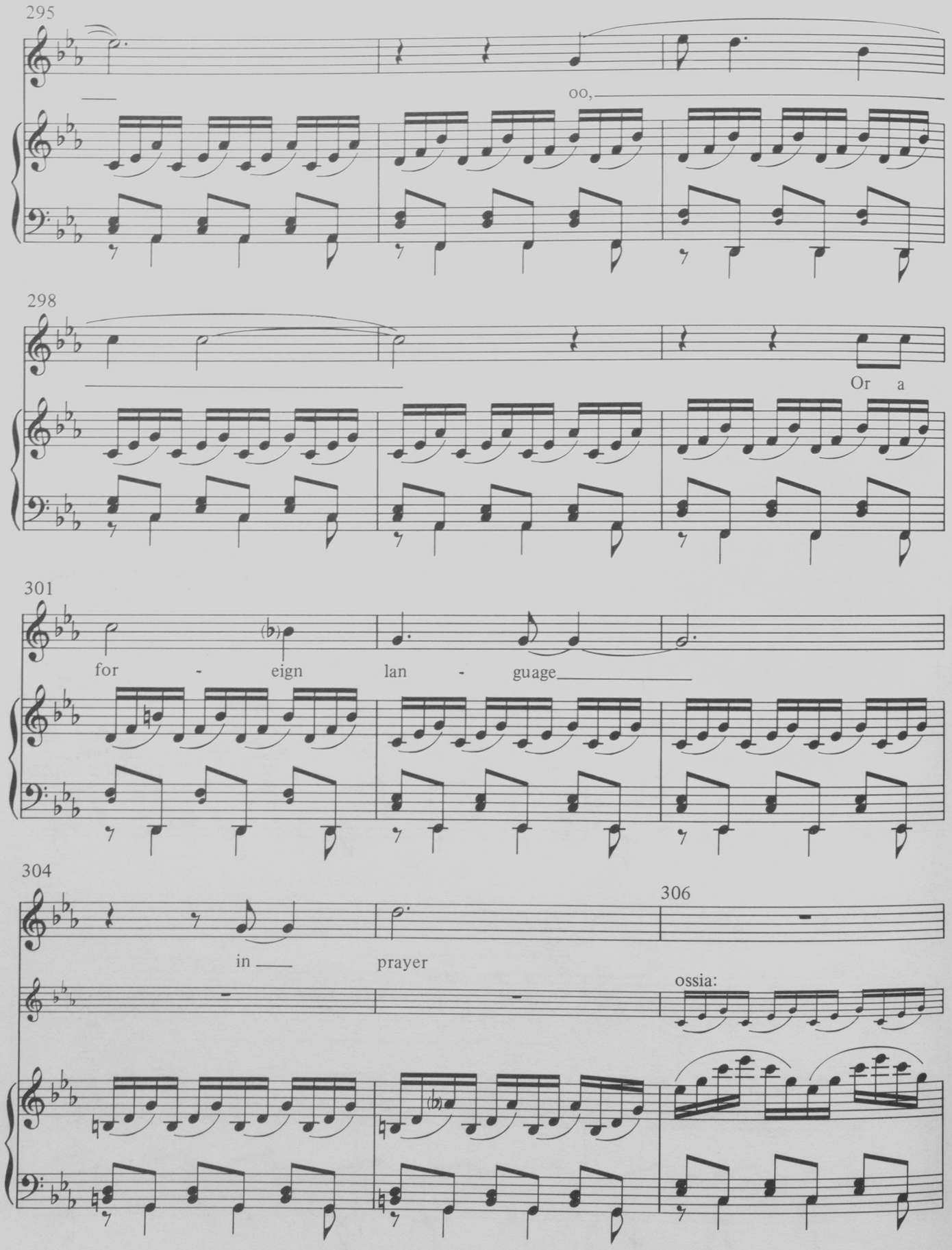

248
Long a - go
in a
251
soft
light
254
Mm
257
mm

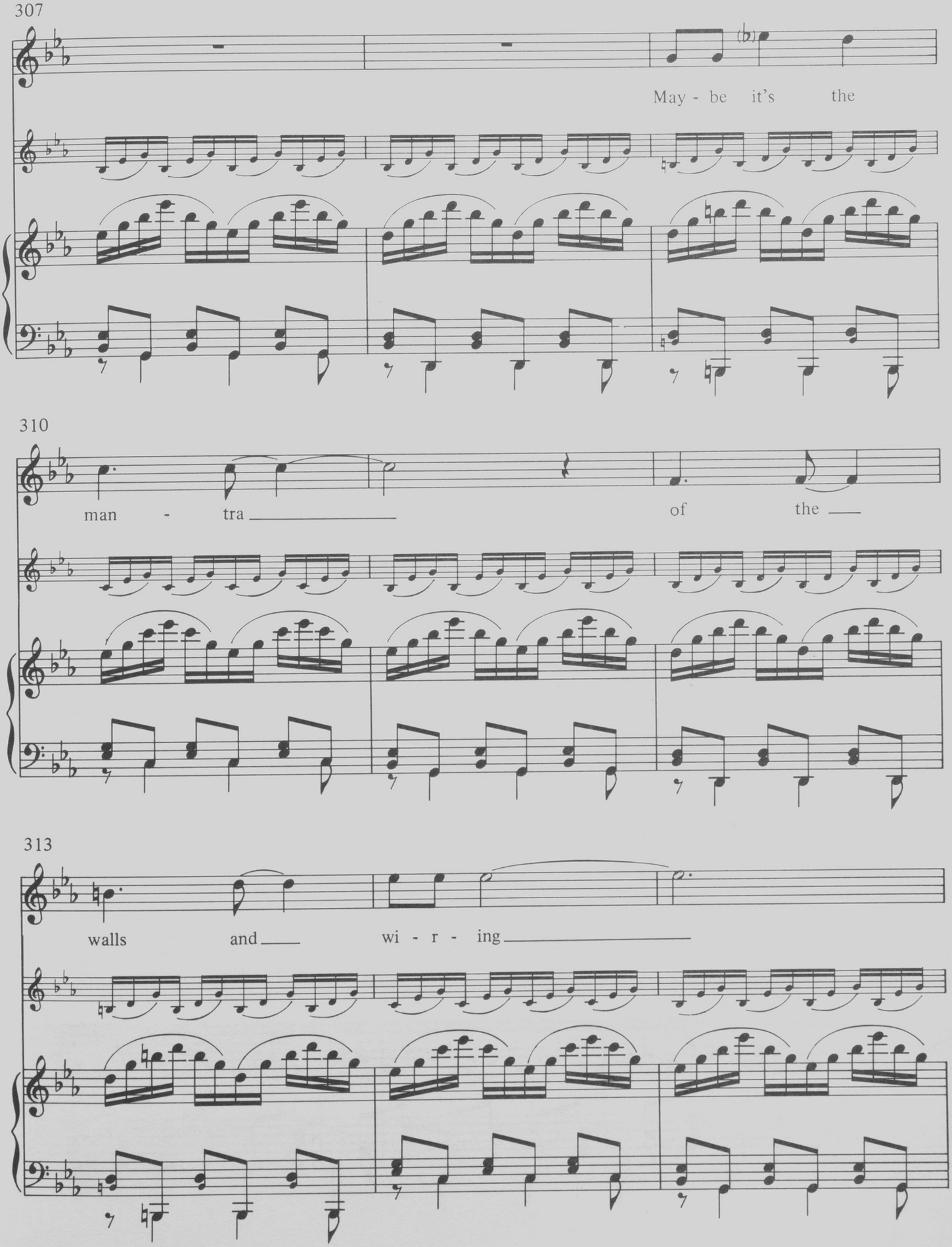

260
mm
262
mm
cresc.
264
f
266
1.2.
3.

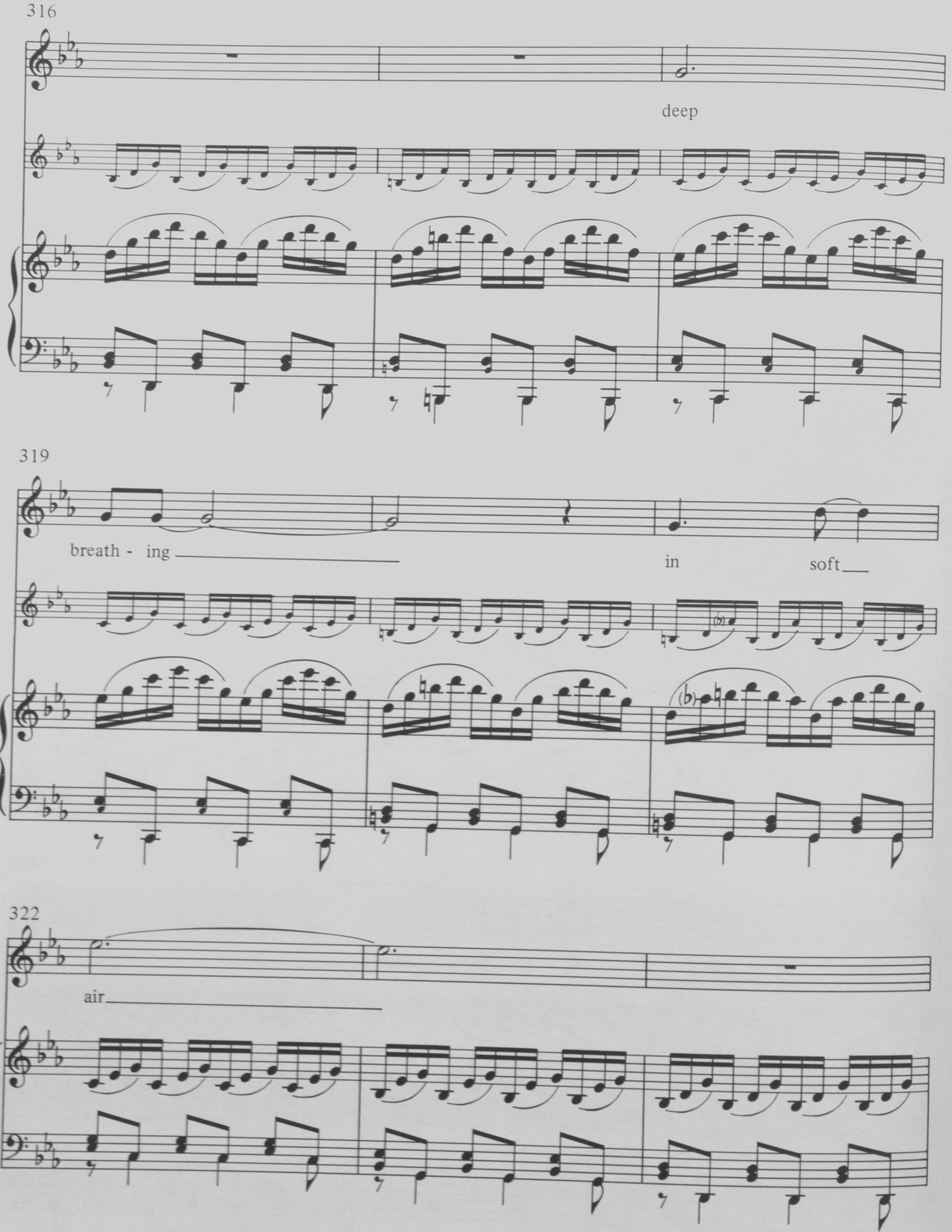

269
1.2.
3.
272
274
Voice:

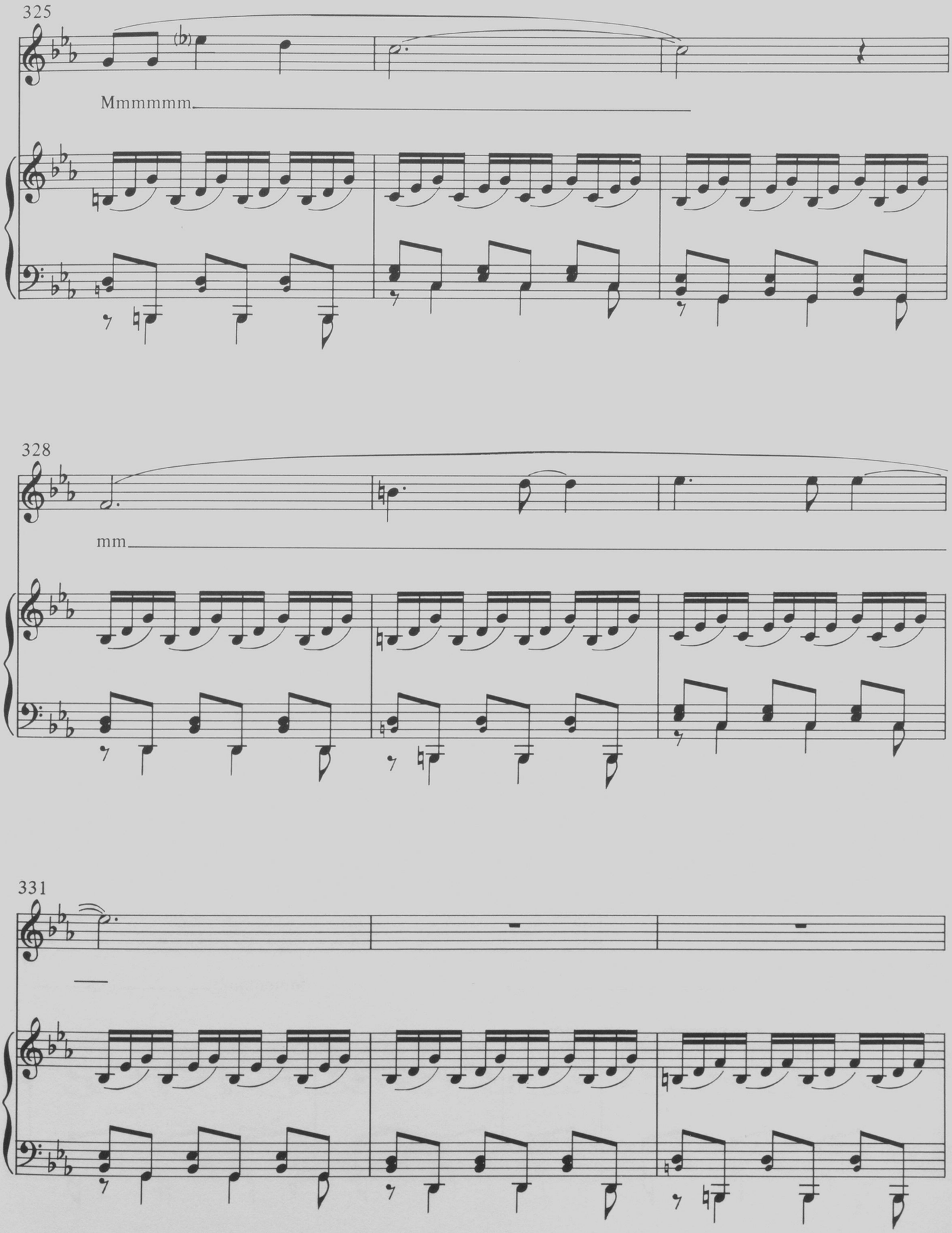

277
4
May - be it's the hum
280
of chang - ing o - pin - ion
283
or a for - eign

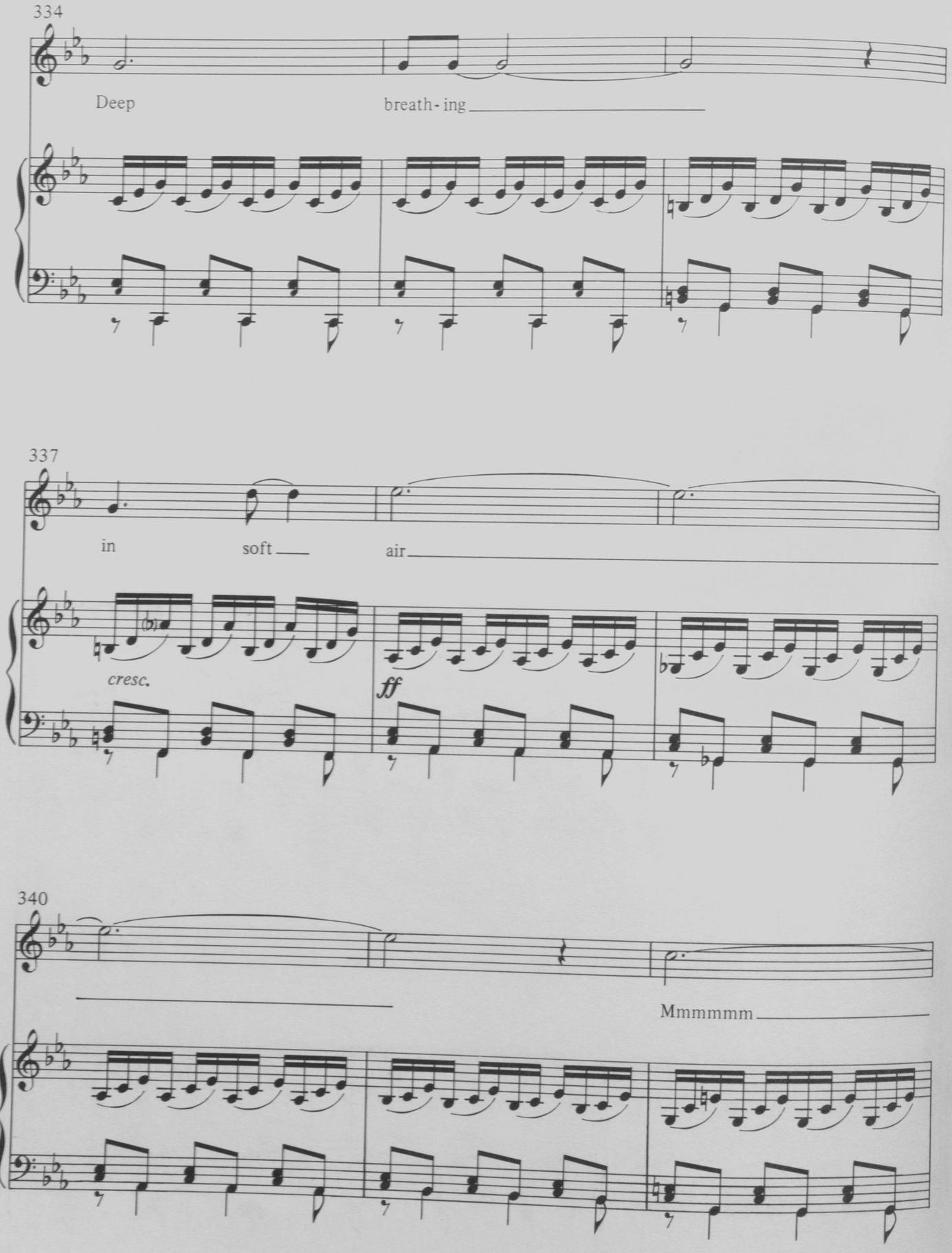

286
lan - guage
in
289
prayer
292
4
Oo,

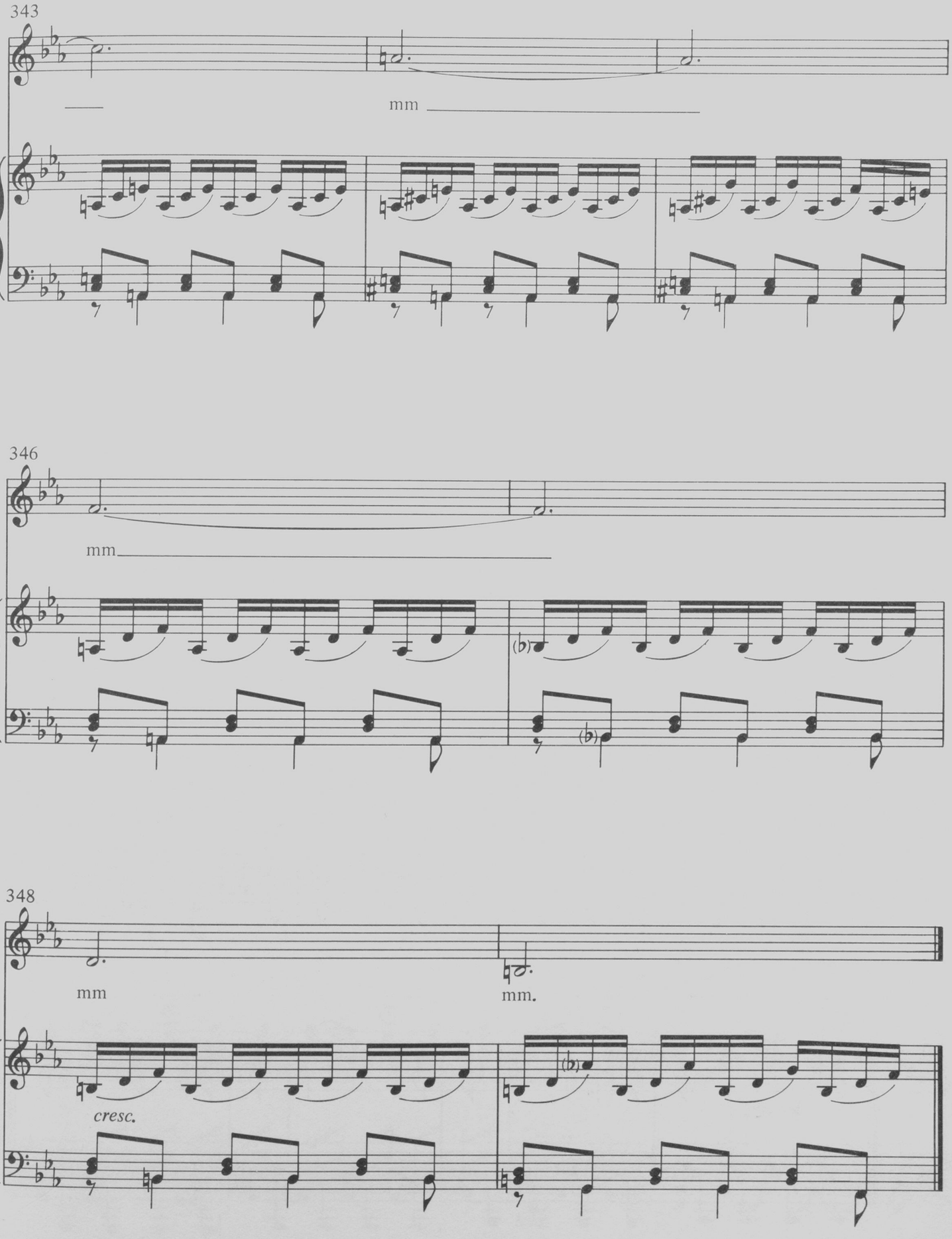

295
oo,
298
Or a
301
for - eign lan - guage
304
in
prayer
306
ossia:


307
May - be it's the
310
man - tra
of the
313
walls and
wi - r - ing


316
deep
319
breath - ing
in
soft
322
air

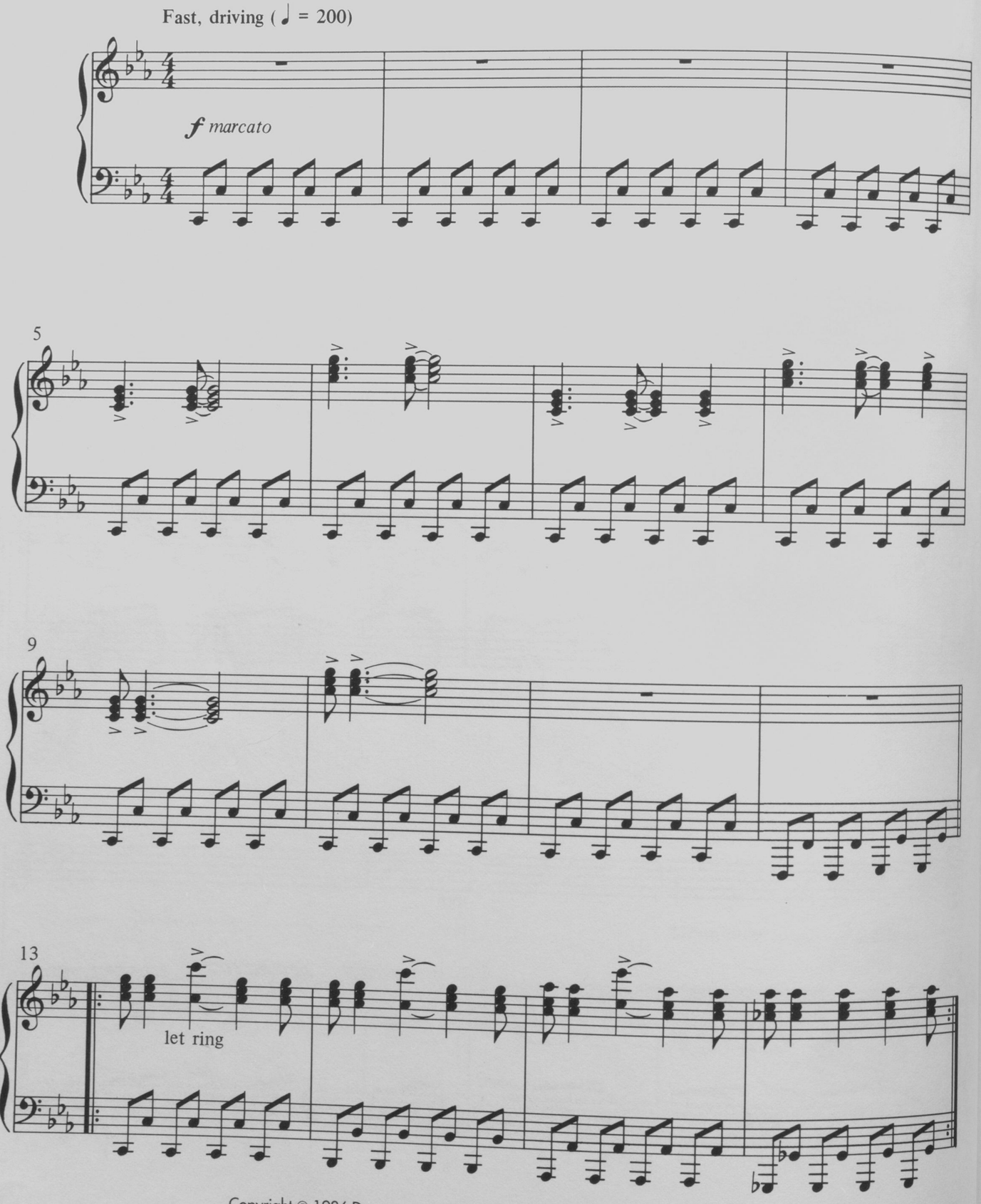

325
Mmmmmm
328
mm
331


334
Deep
breath - ing
337
in
soft
air
cresc.
ff
340
Mmmmmm


343
mm
346
mm
348
mm
mm.
cresc.

LIGHTNING

Music by Philip Glass ▼ Words by Suzanne Vega



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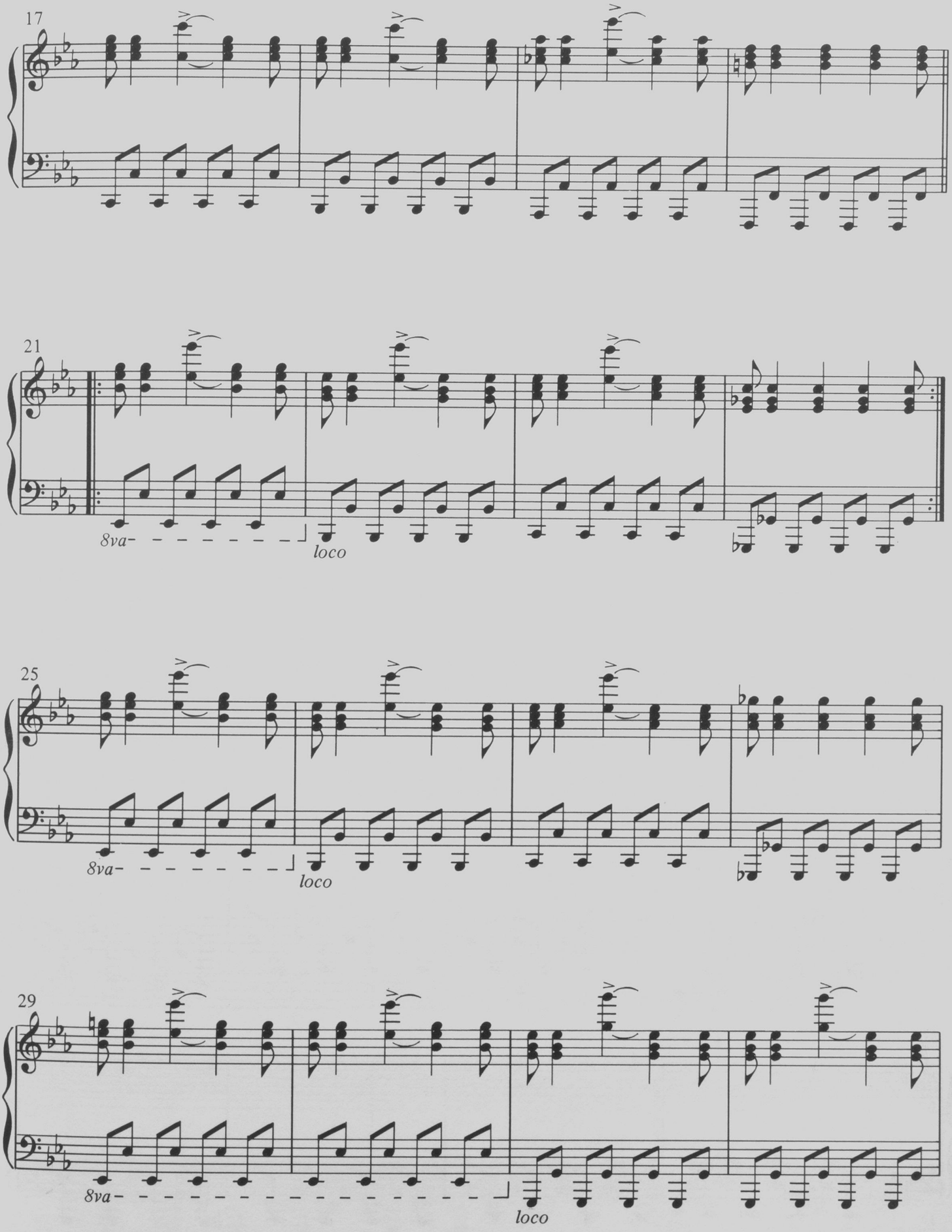
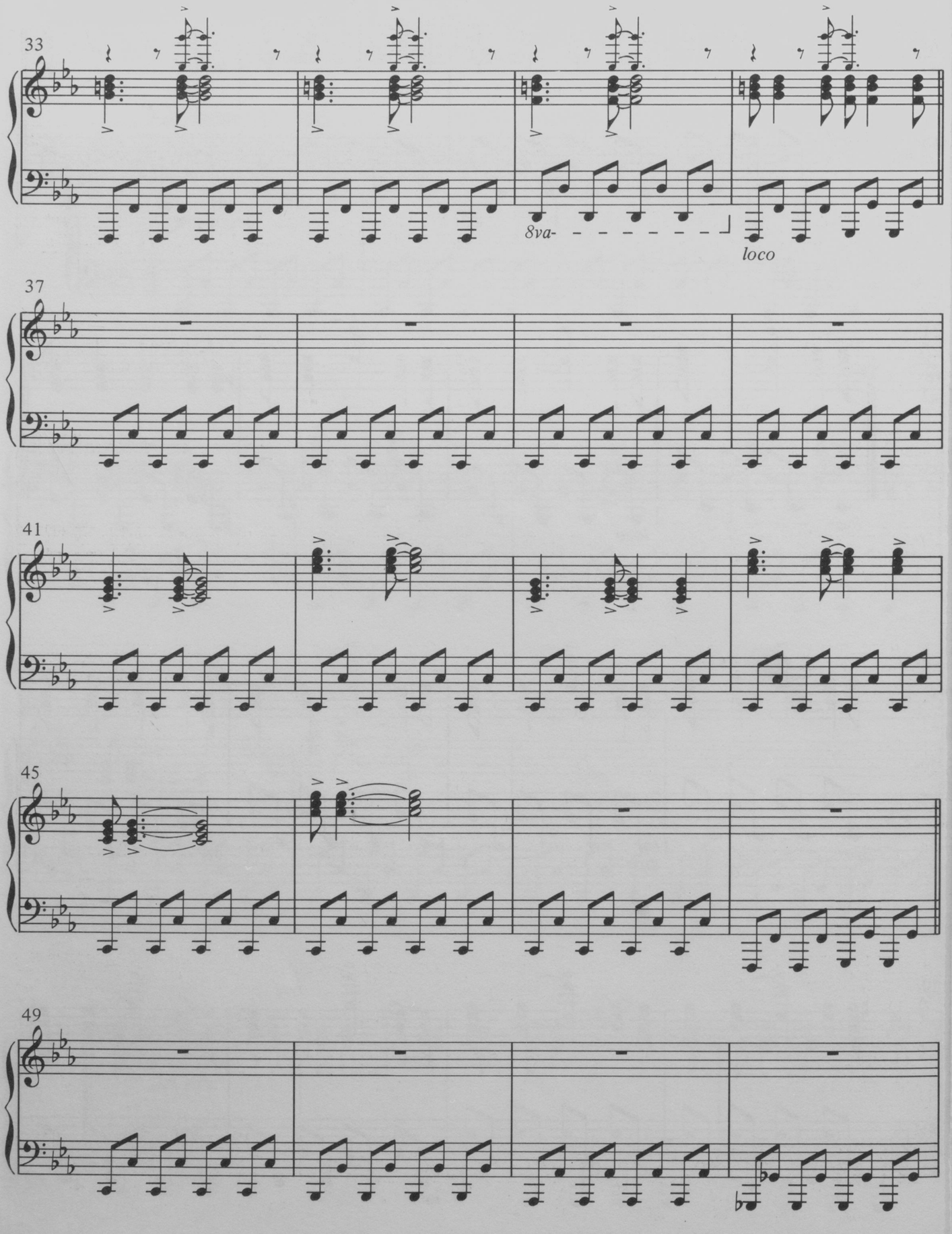
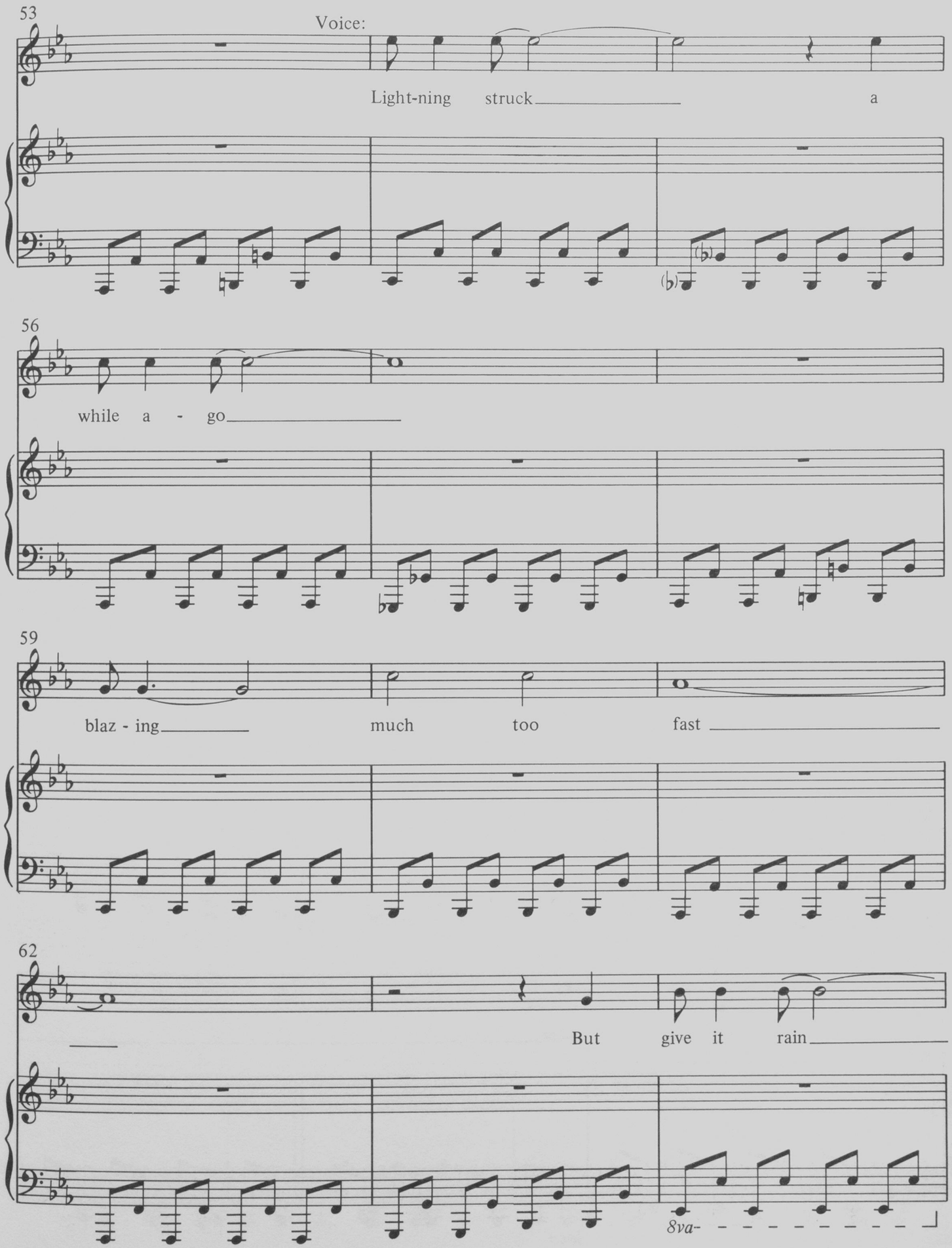
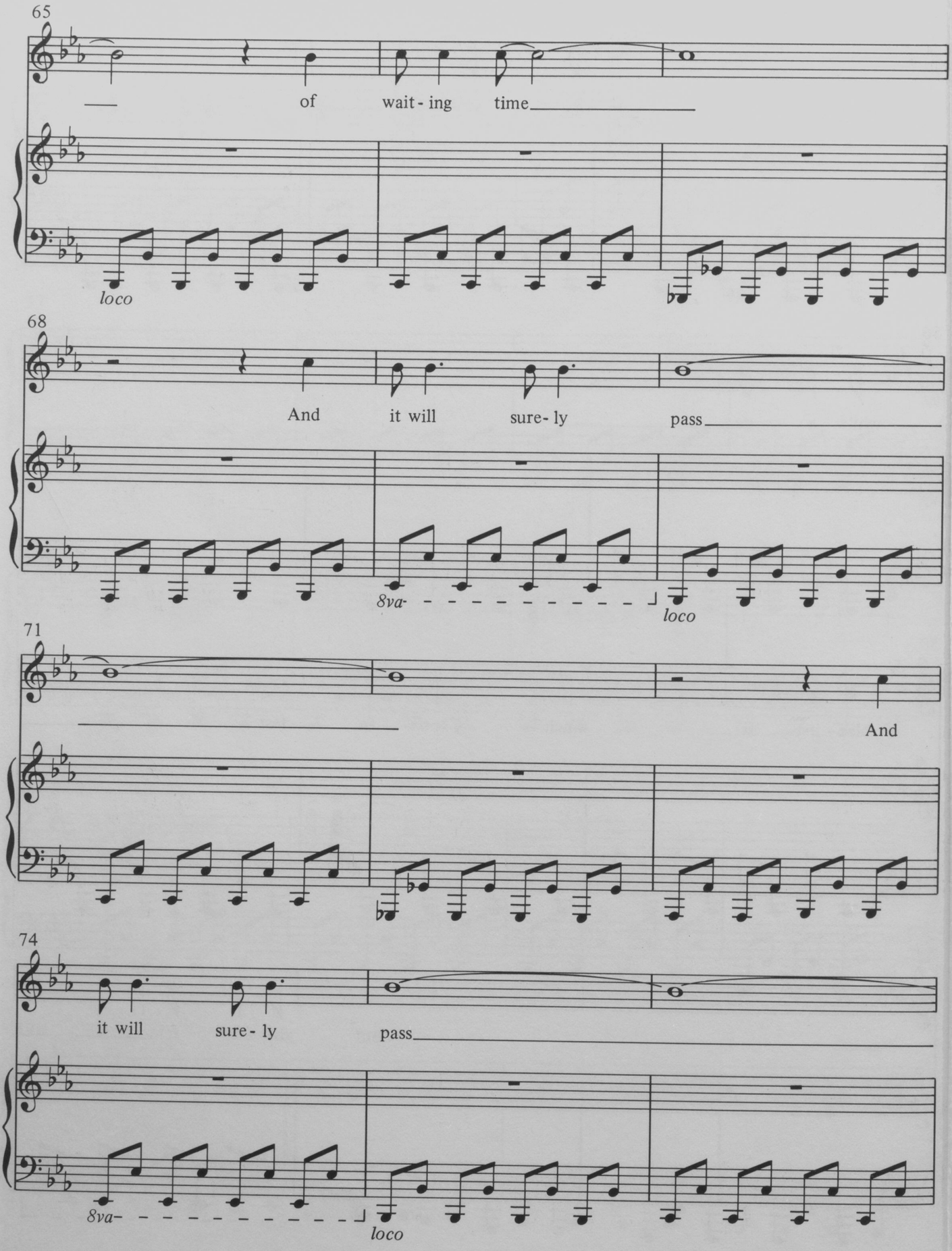
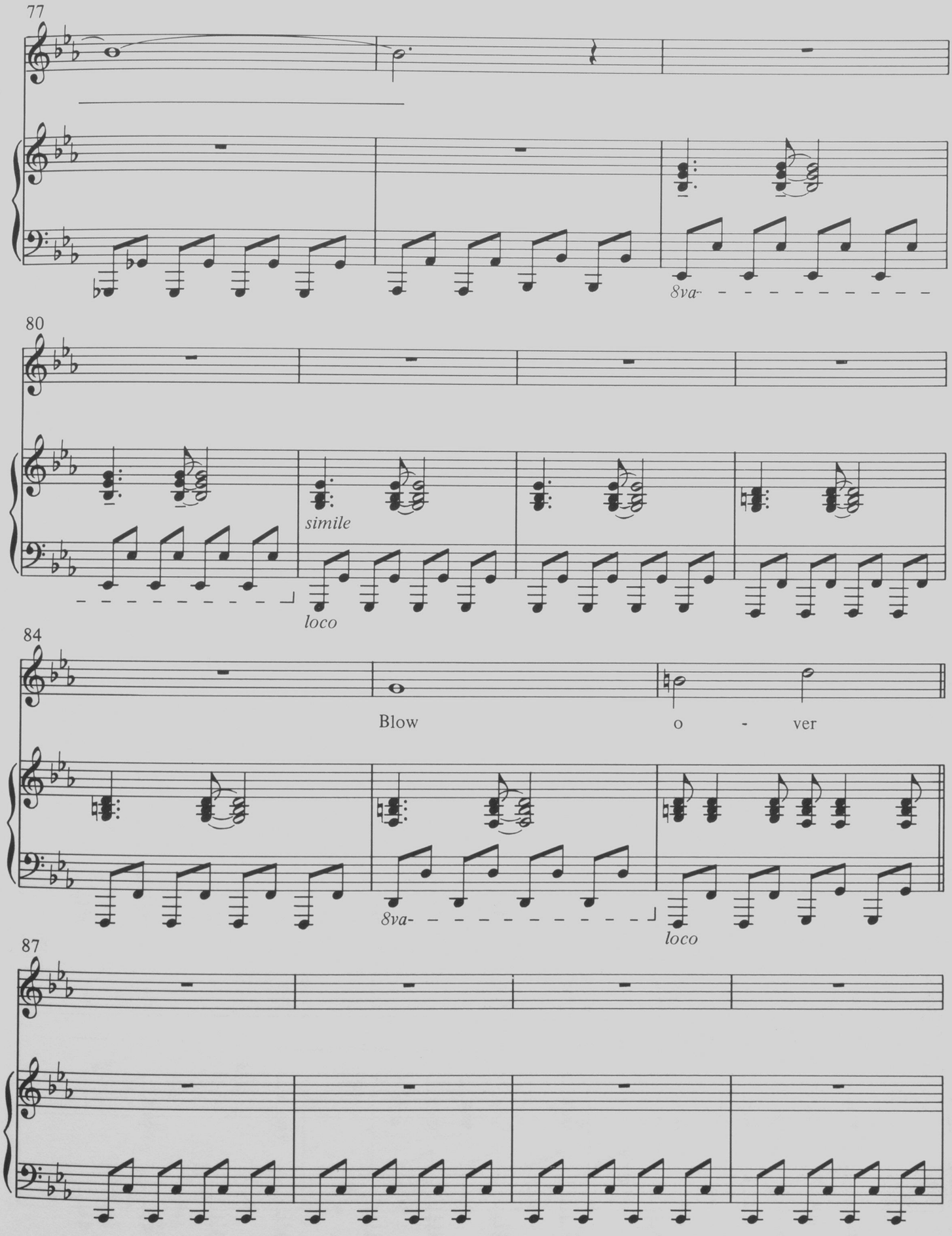
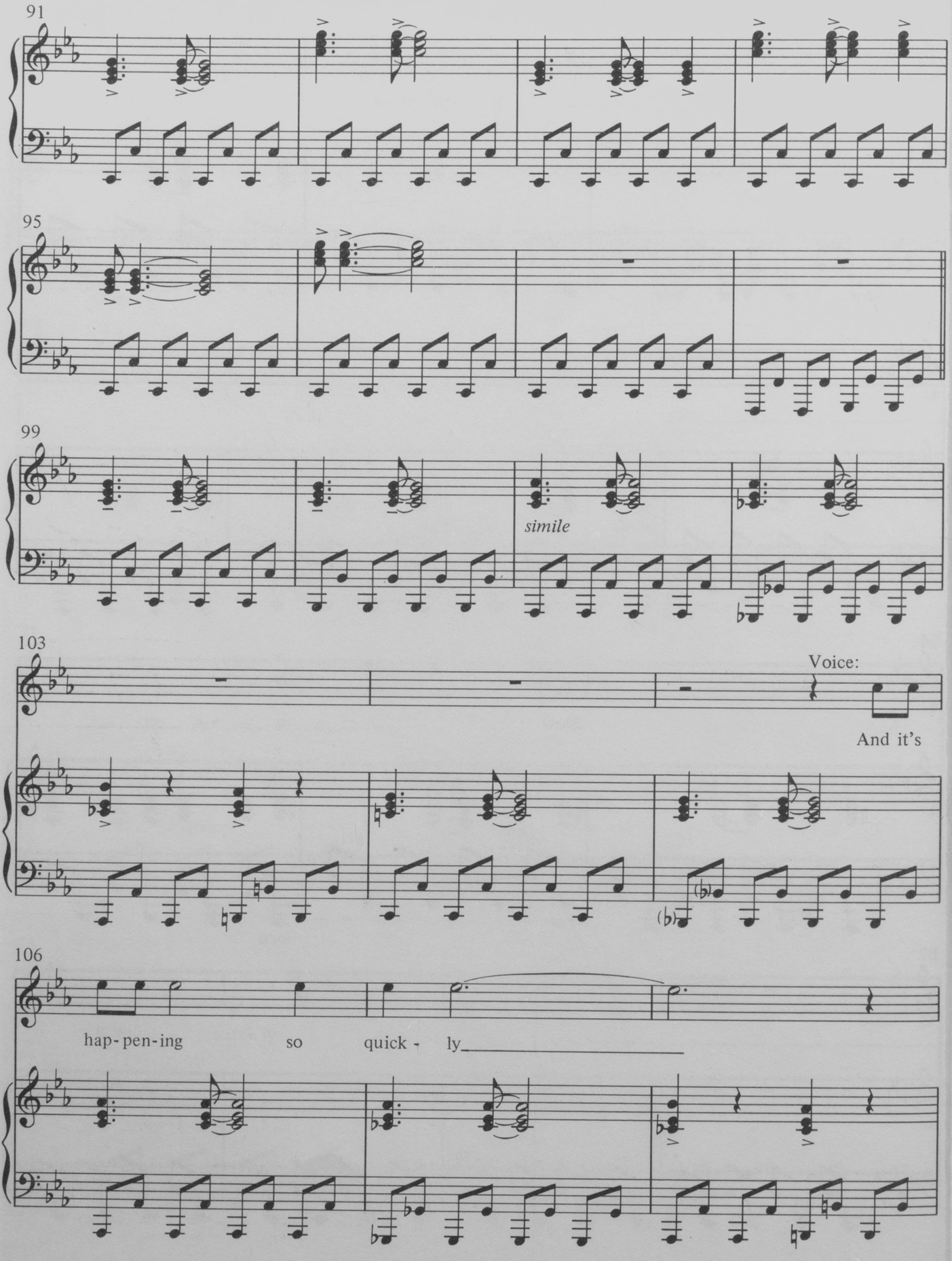

17
21
8va
loco
25
8va
loco
29
8va
loco

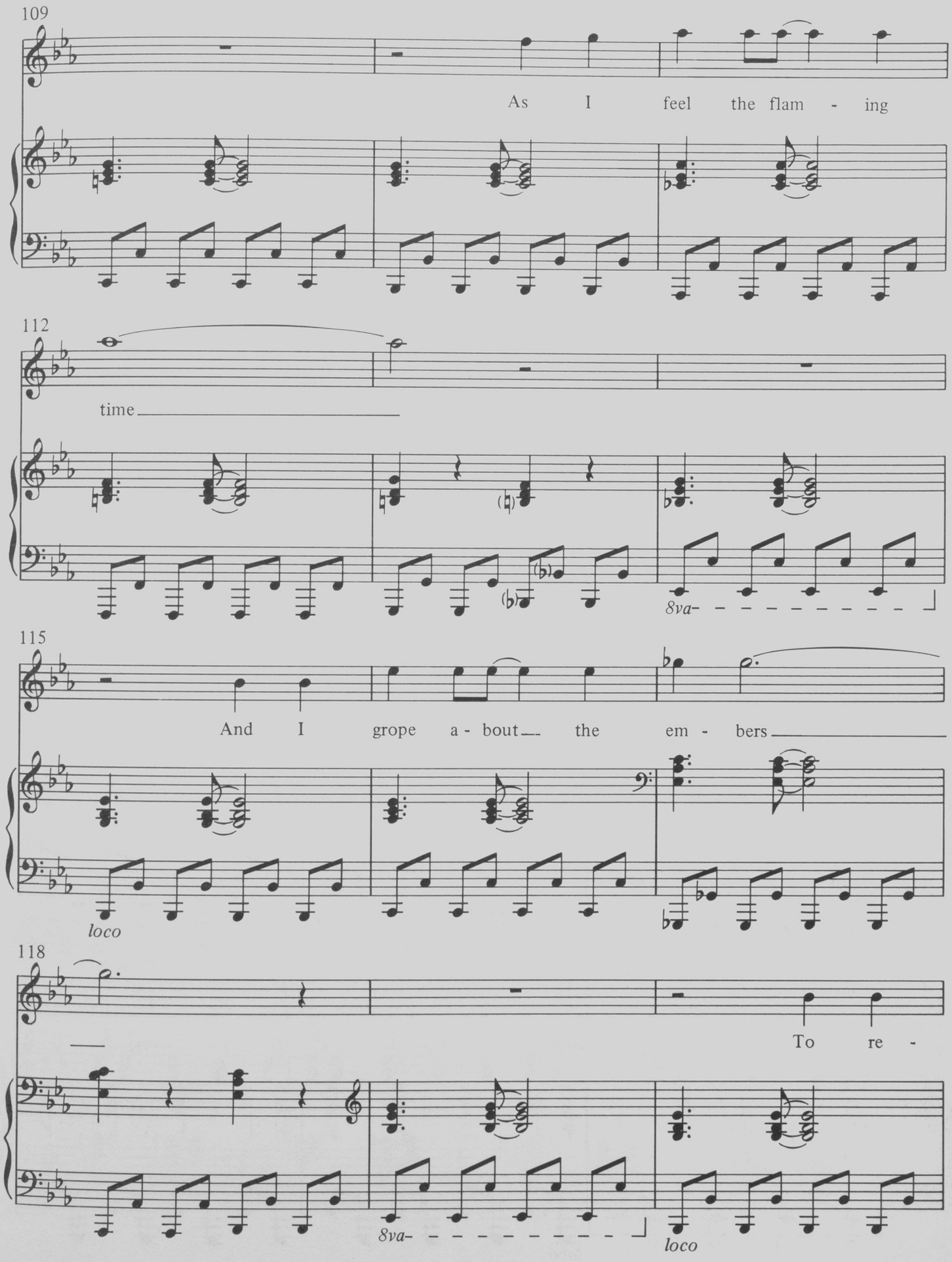

33
8va-
loco
37
41
45
49

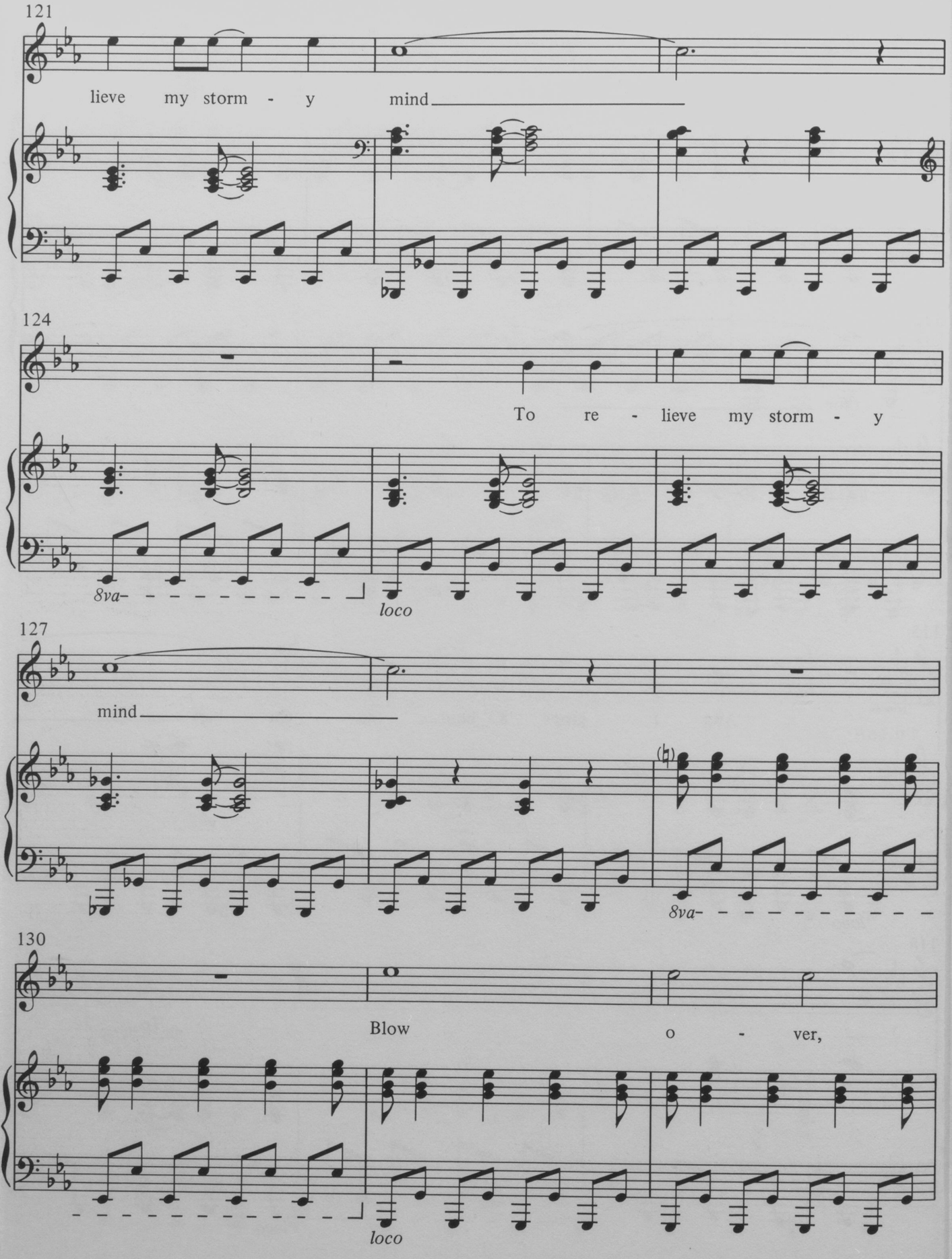

53
Voice:
Light-ning struck a
56
while a - go
59
blaz - ing much too fast
62
But give it rain
8va-

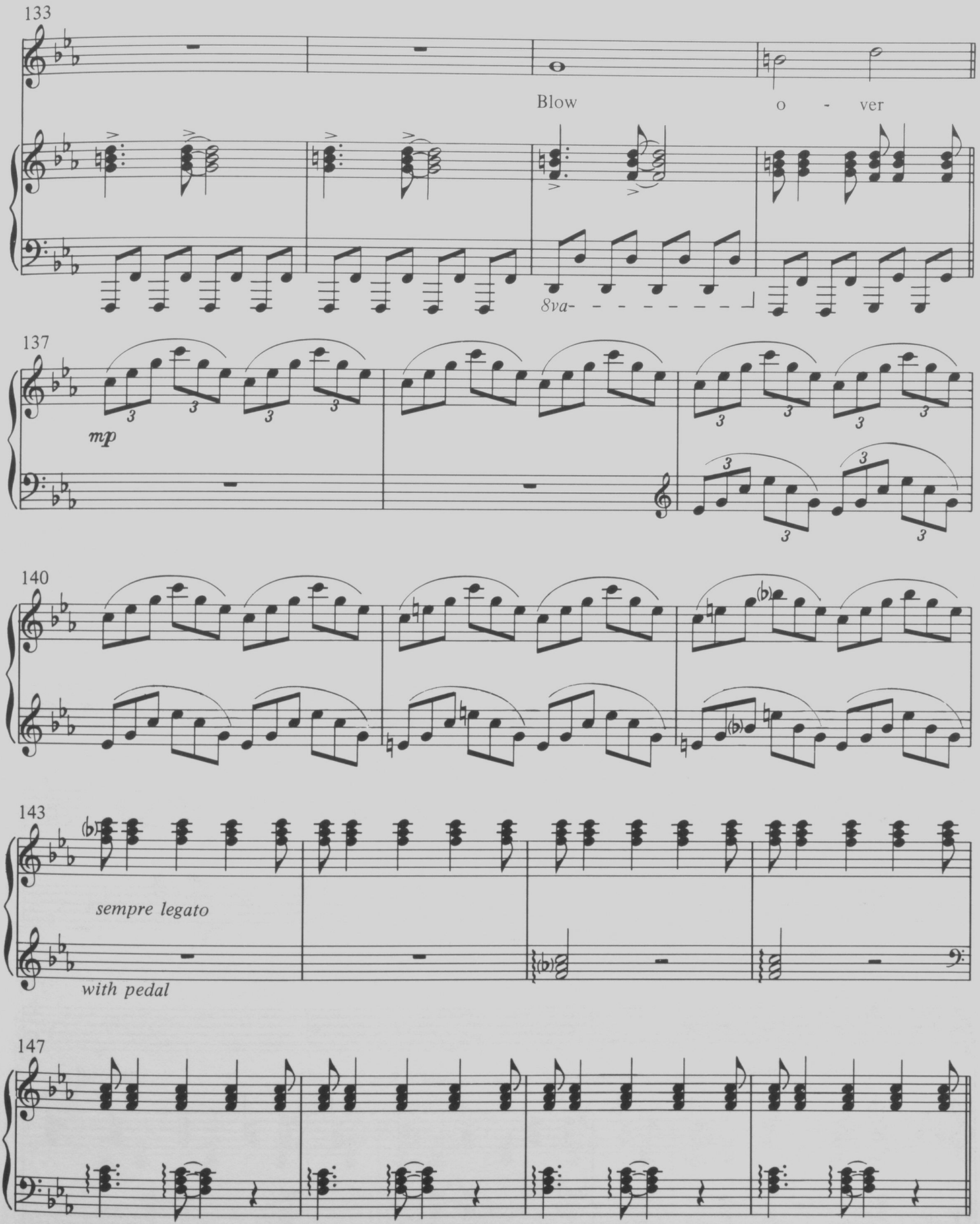

65
of wait - ing time
loco
68
And it will sure - ly pass
8va
loco
71
And
74
it will sure - ly pass
8va
loco

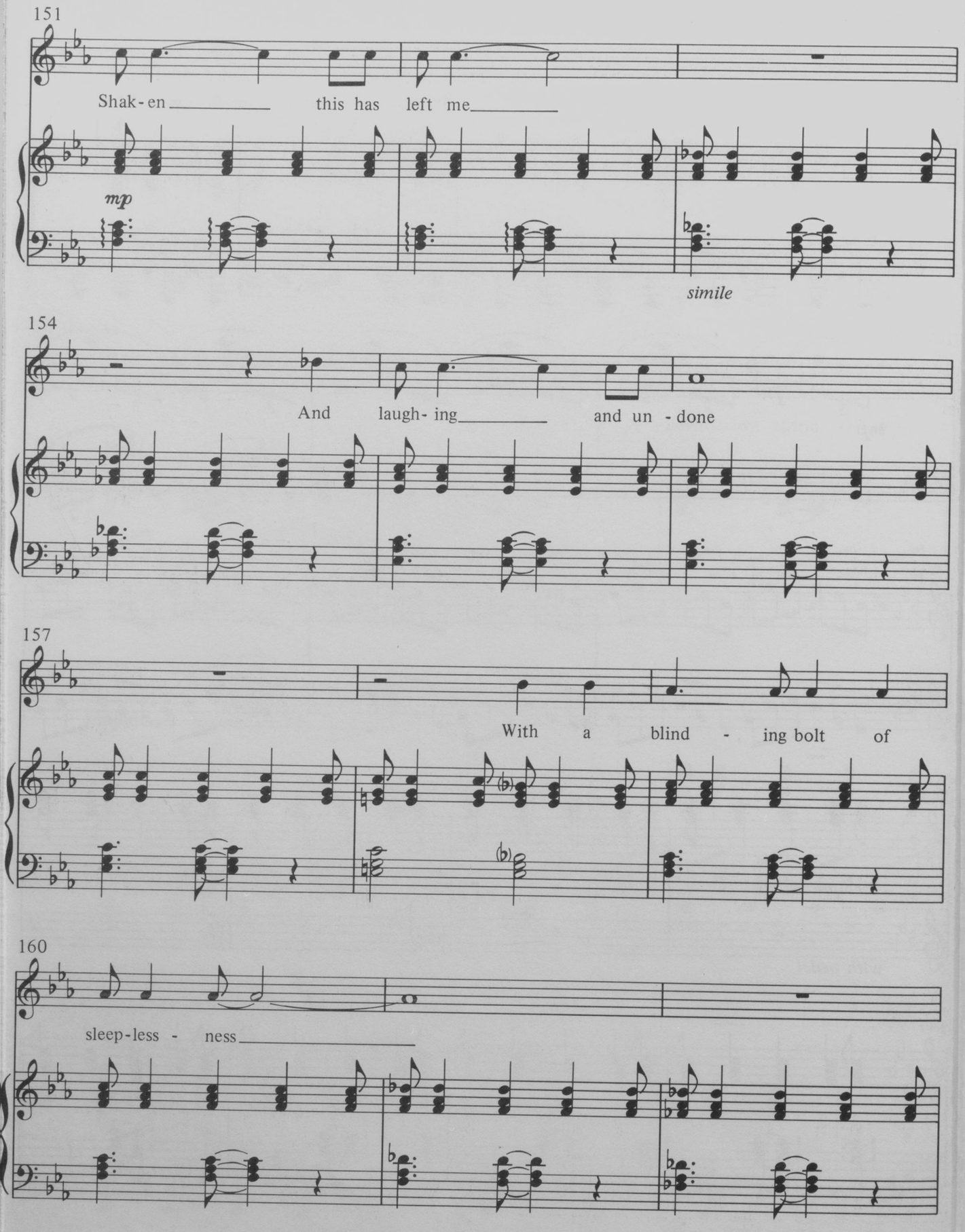

77
8va
80
simile
loco
84
Blow
o - ver
8va
loco
87

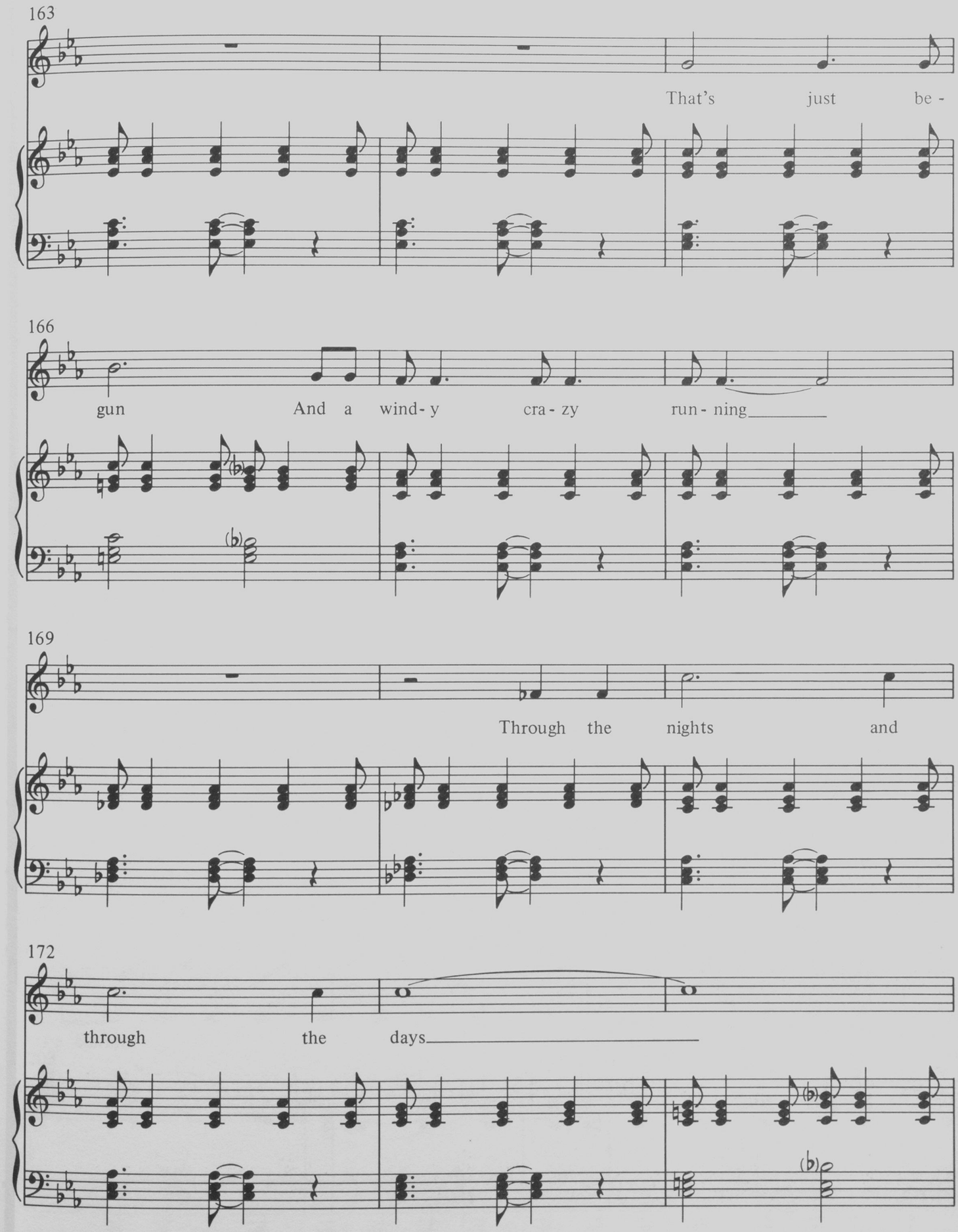

91
95
99
simile
103
Voice:
And it's
106
hap- pen- ing so quick - ly

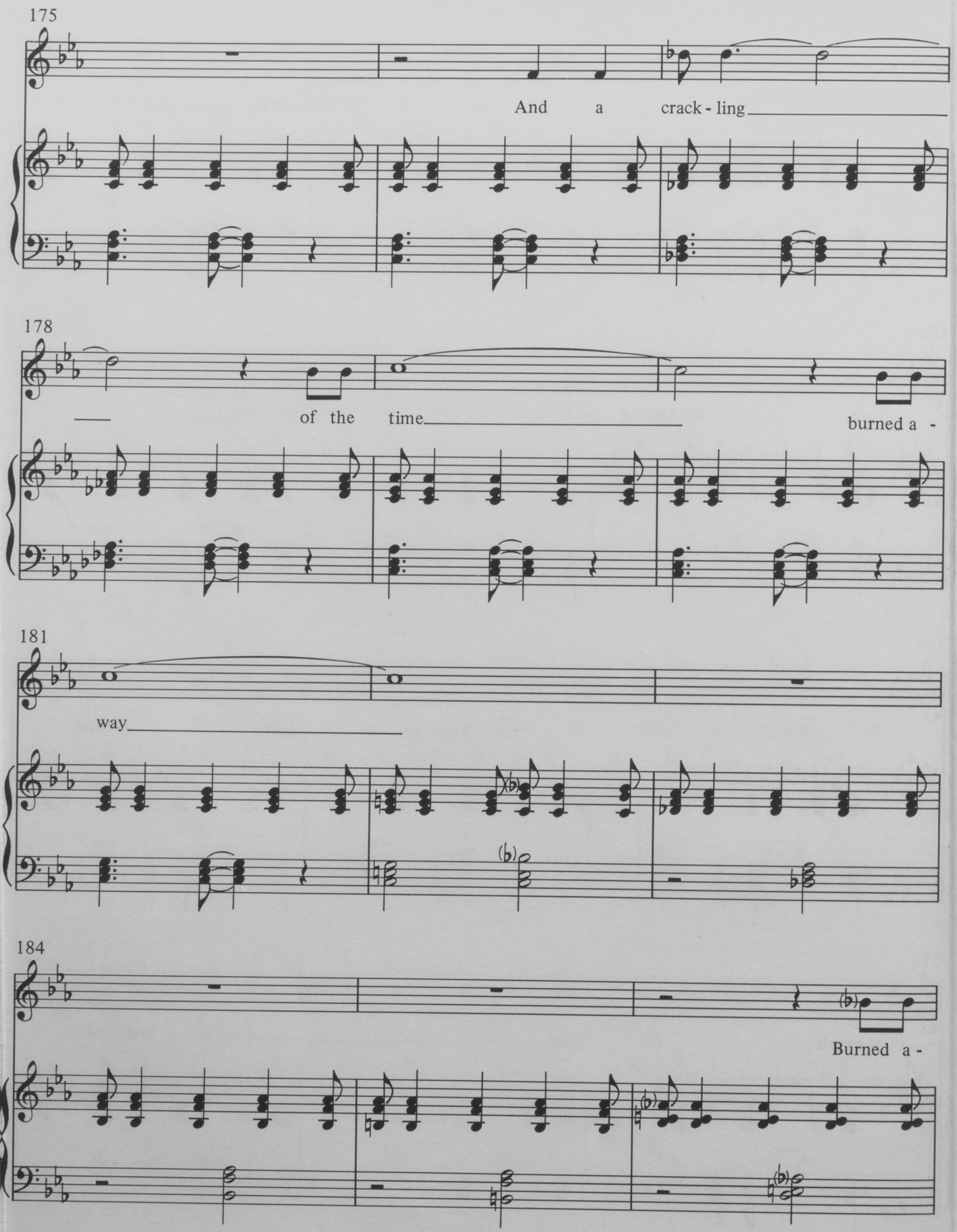

109
As I feel the flam - ing
112
time
8va
115
And I grope a - bout the em - bers
loco
118
To re -
8va
loco

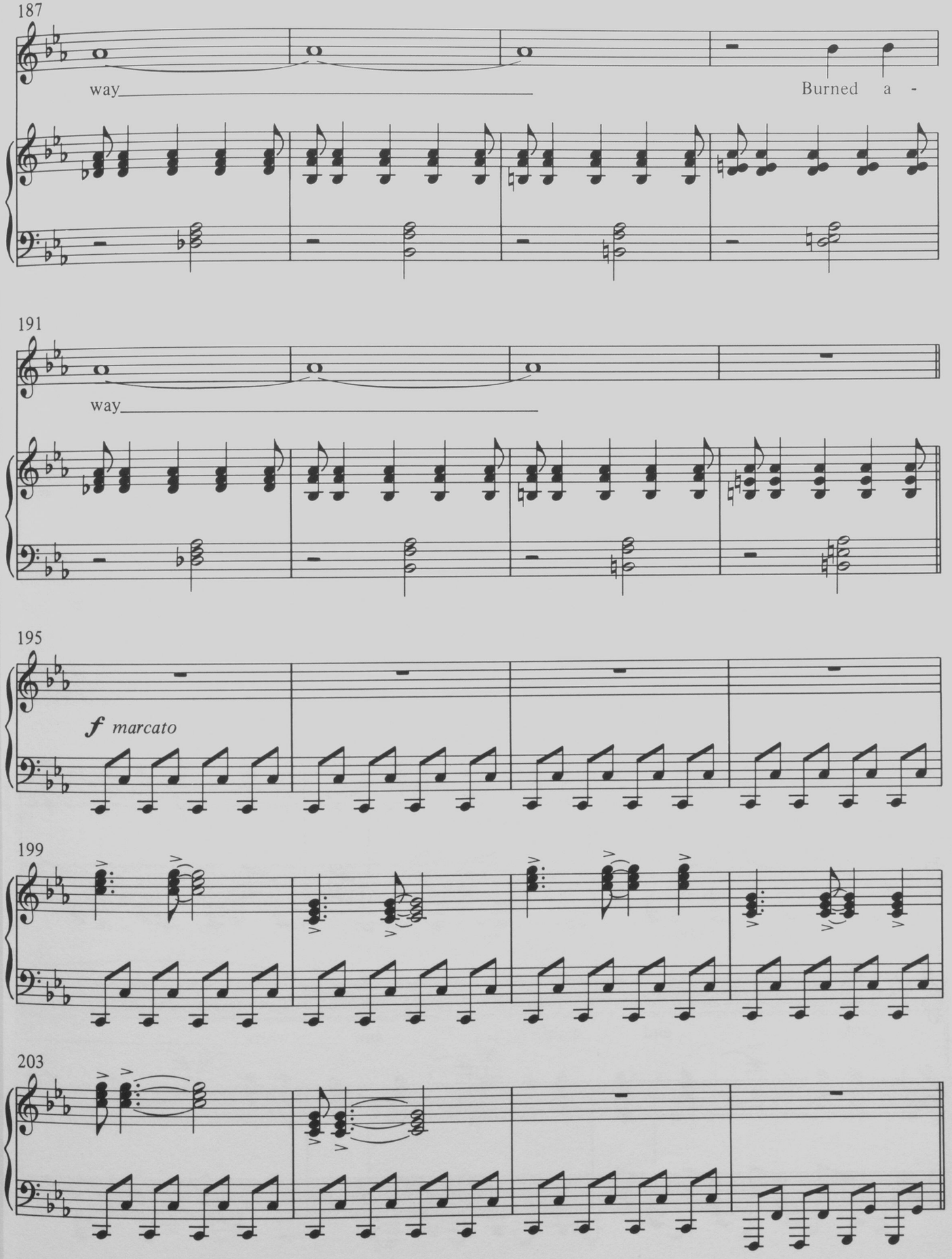

121
lieve my storm - y mind
124
To re - lieve my storm - y
8va
loco
127
mind
8va
130
Blow o - ver,
loco

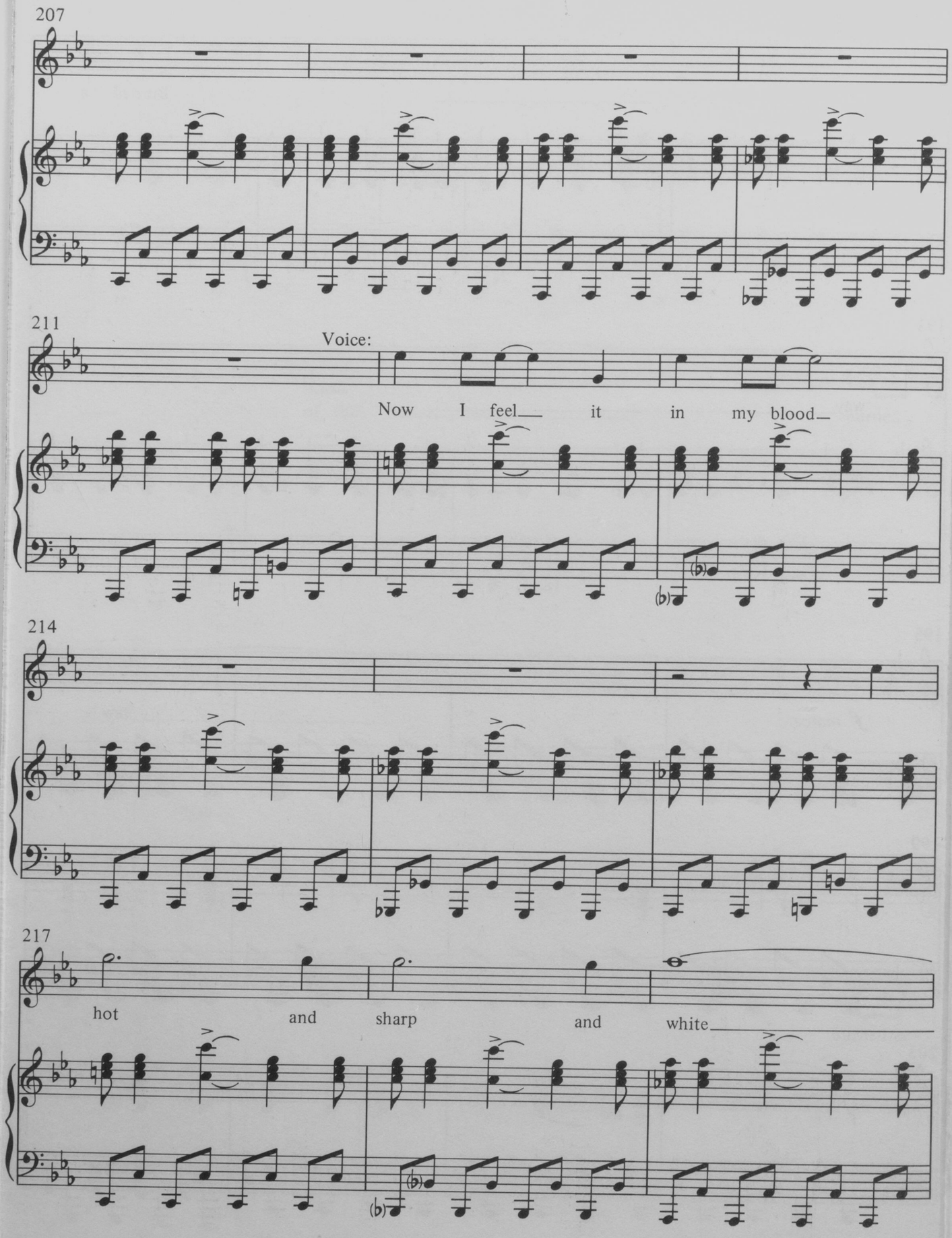

133
Blow
o - ver
8va
137
mp
140
143
sempre legato
with pedal
147

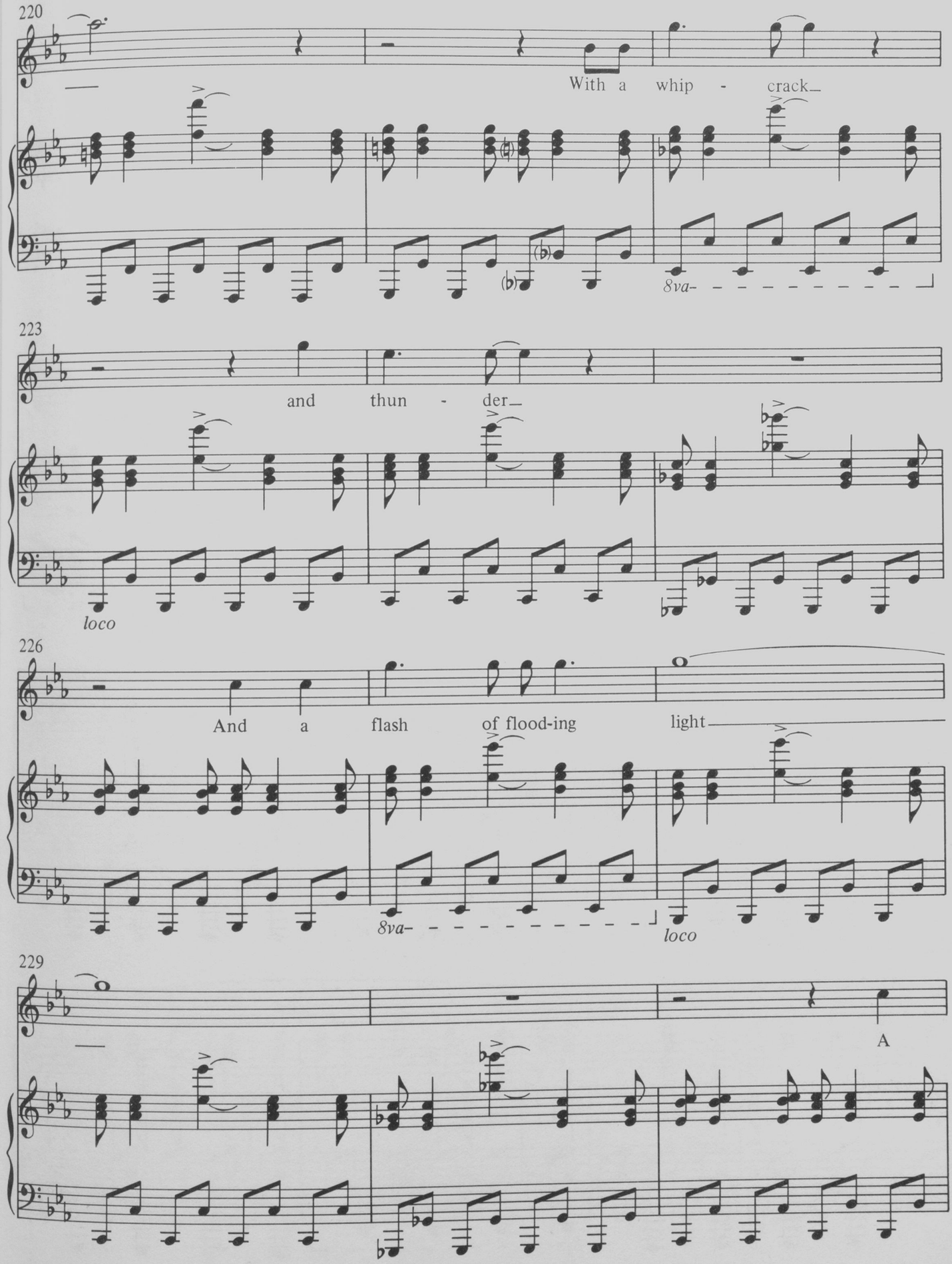

151
Shak-en this has left me
mp
simile
154
And laugh-ing and un-done
157
With a blind-ing bolt of
160
sleep-less-ness

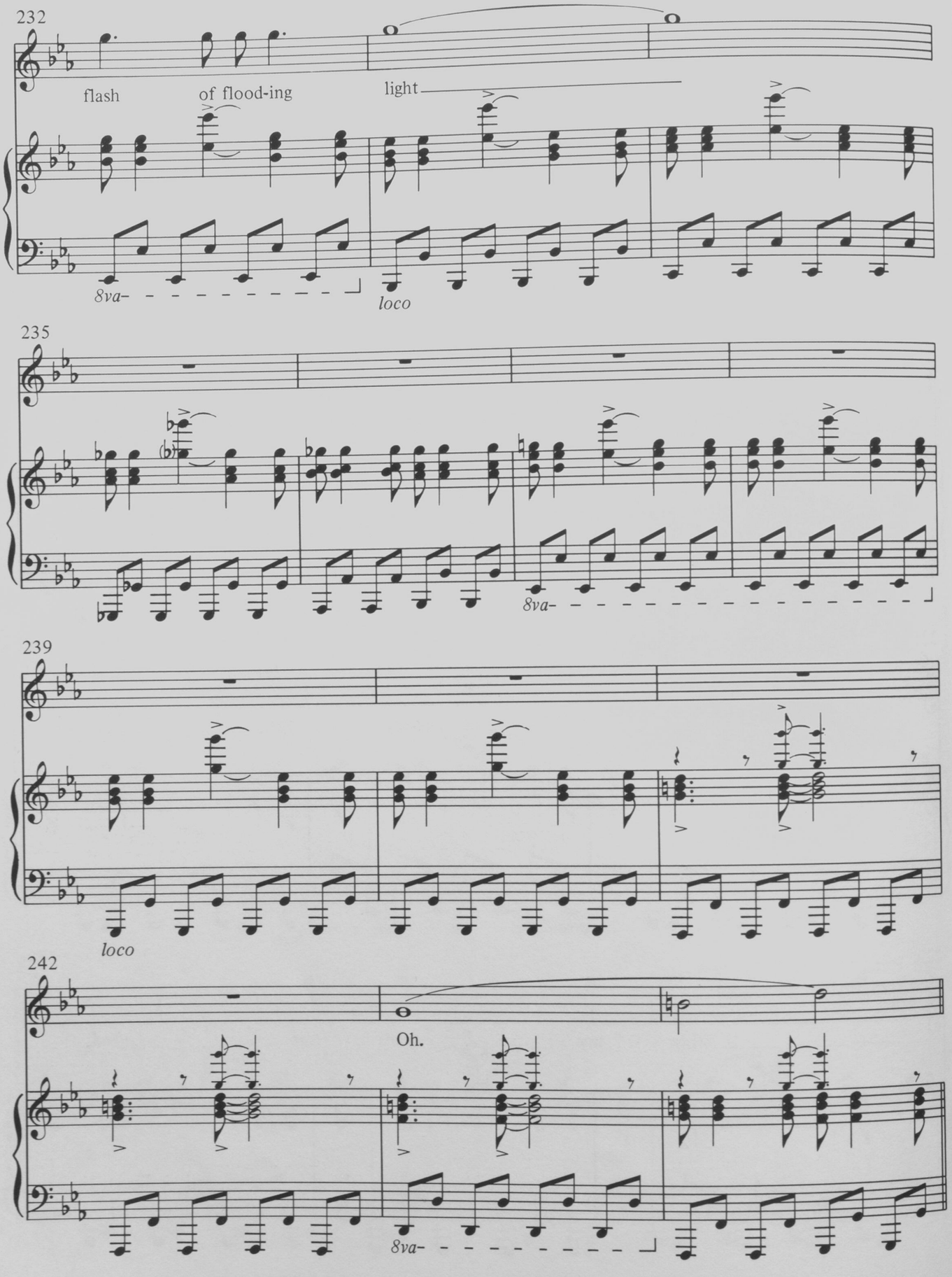

163
That's just be -
166
gun And a wind- y cra- zy run- ning
169
Through the nights and
172
through the days

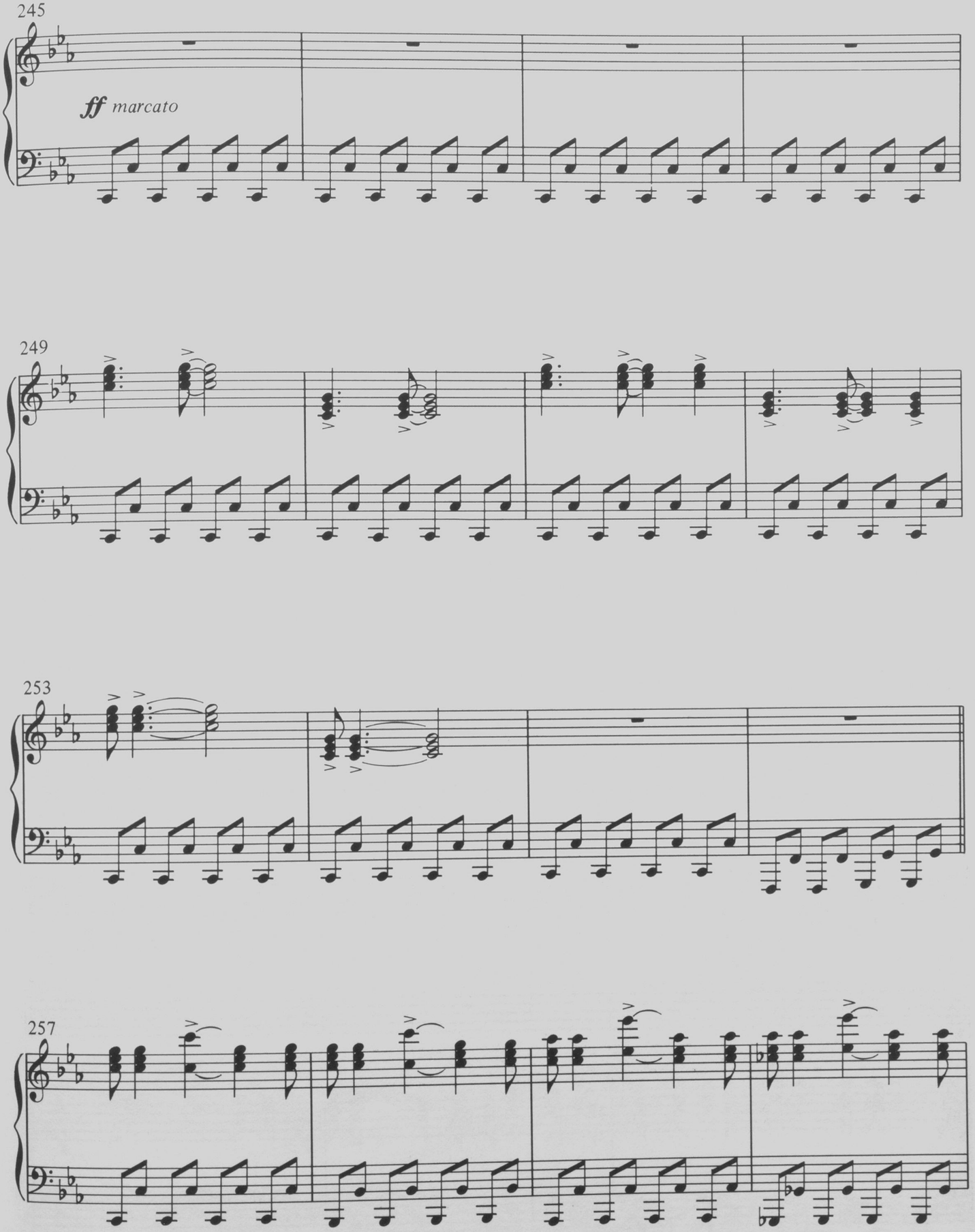

175
And a crack - ling
178
of the time
burned a -
181
way
184
Burned a -

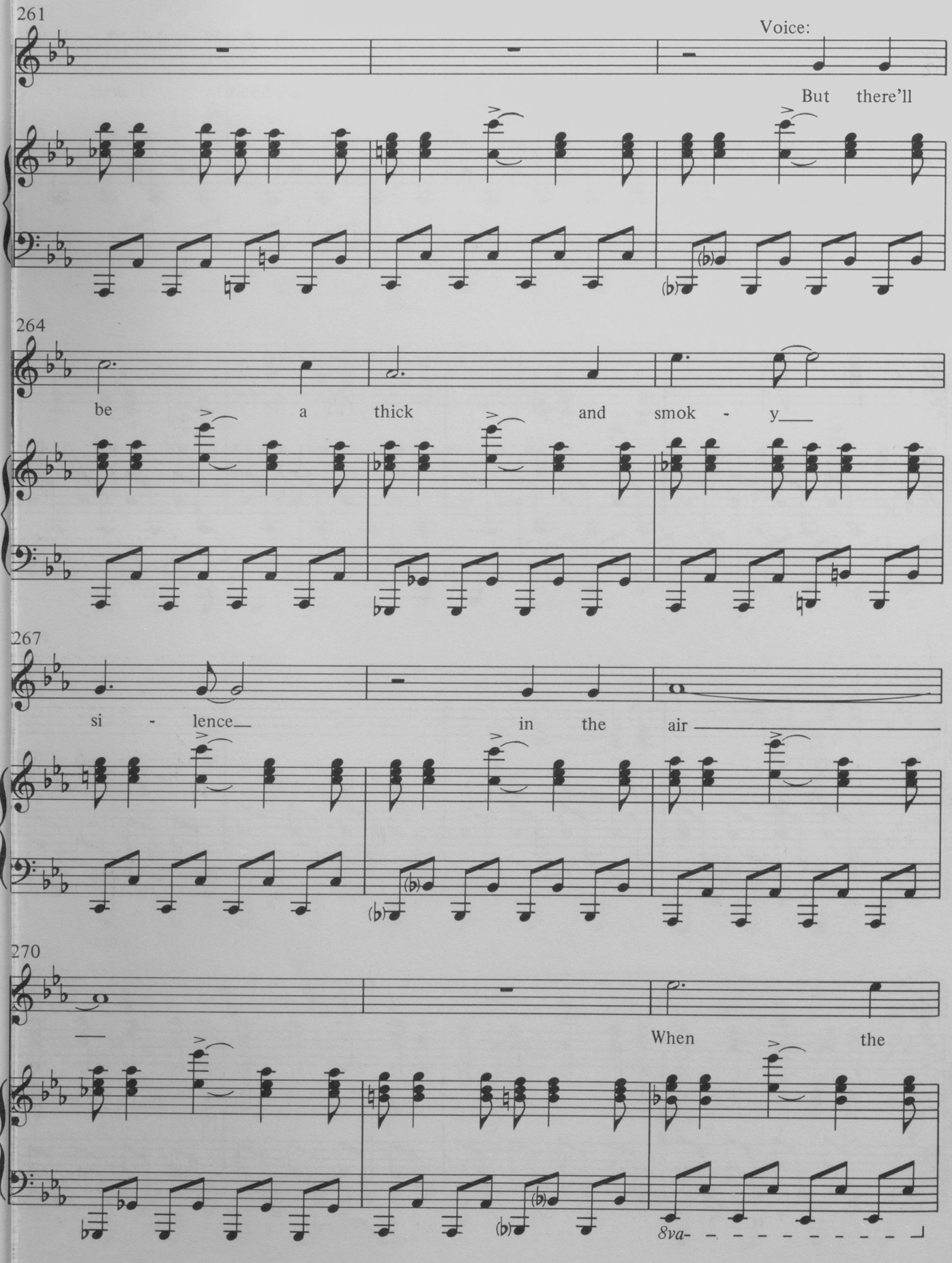

187
way
Burned a -
191
way
195
f marcato
199
203

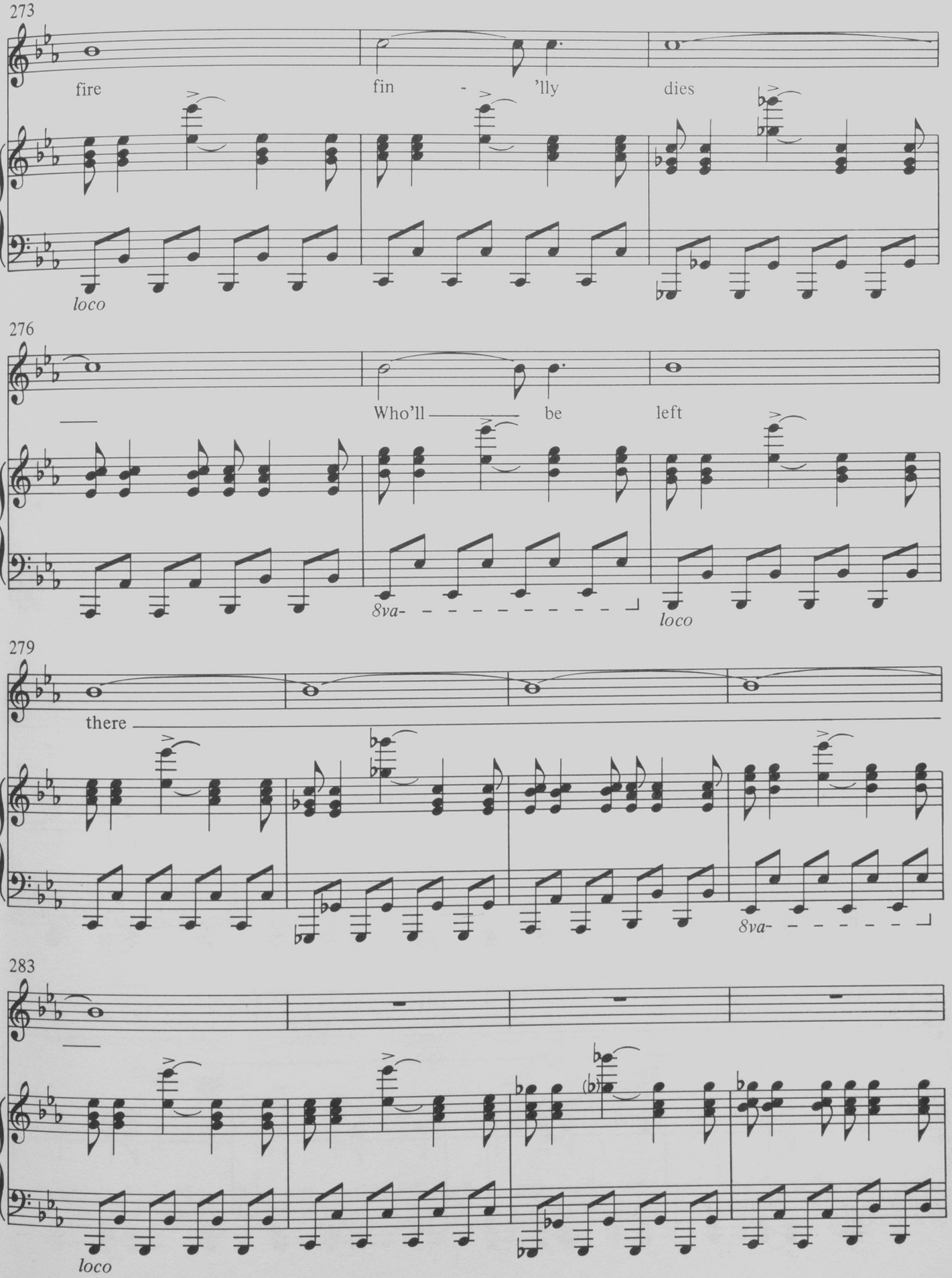

207
211
Voice:
Now I feel it in my blood
214
217
hot and sharp and white

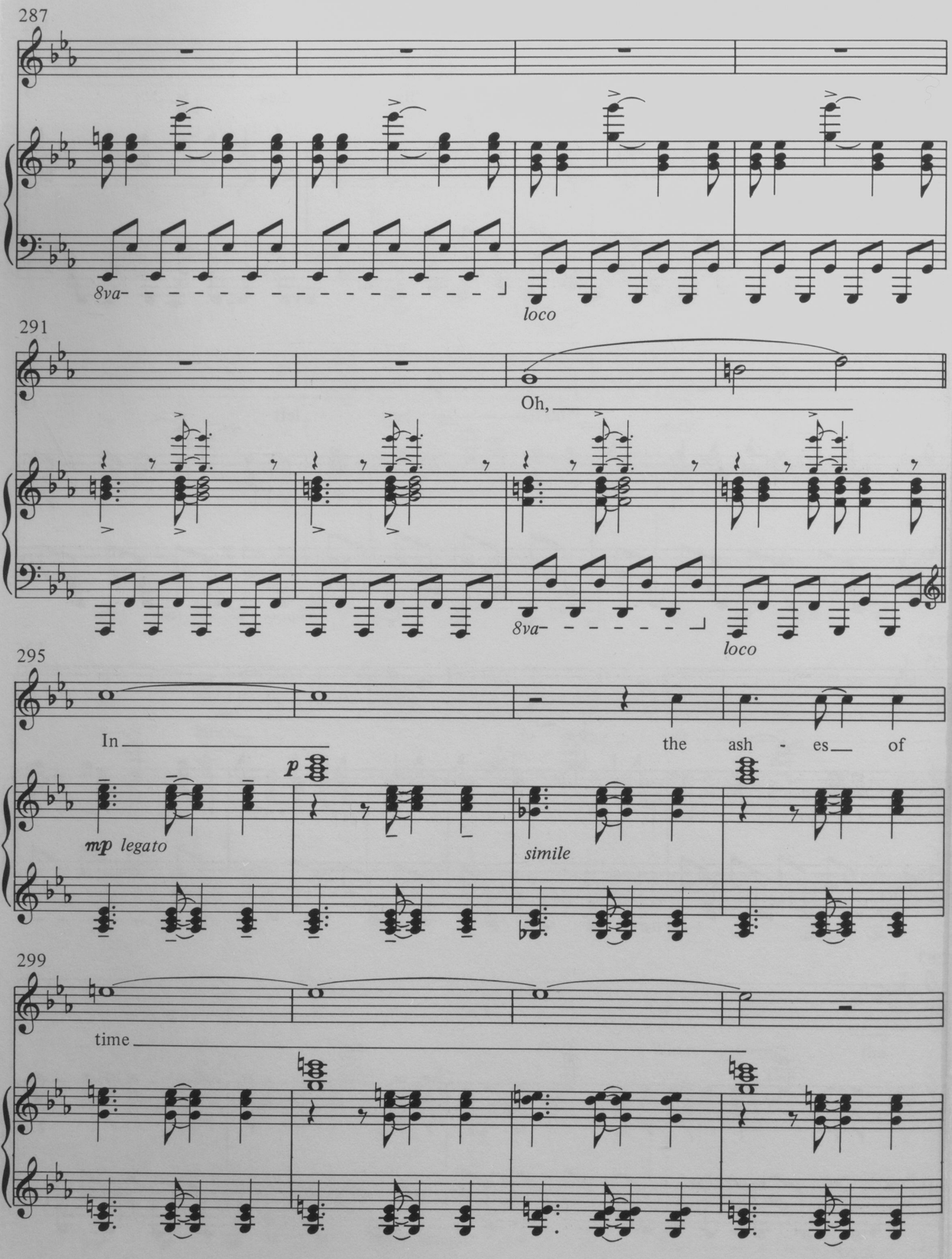

220
With a whip - crack
8va
223
and thun - der
loco
226
And a flash of flood-ing light
8va
loco
229
A

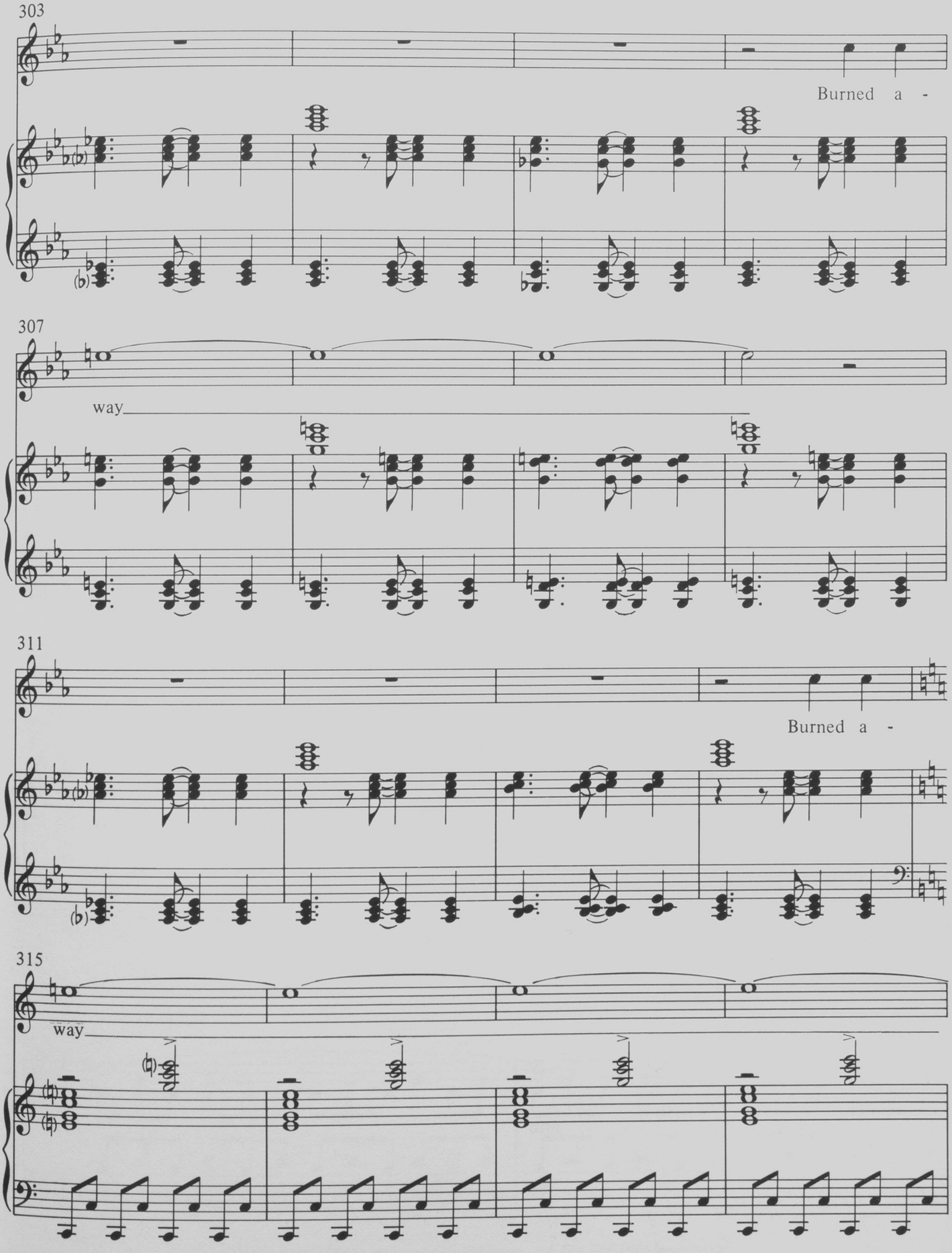

232
flash
of flood-ing
light
8va-
loco
235
8va-
239
loco
242
Oh.
8va-

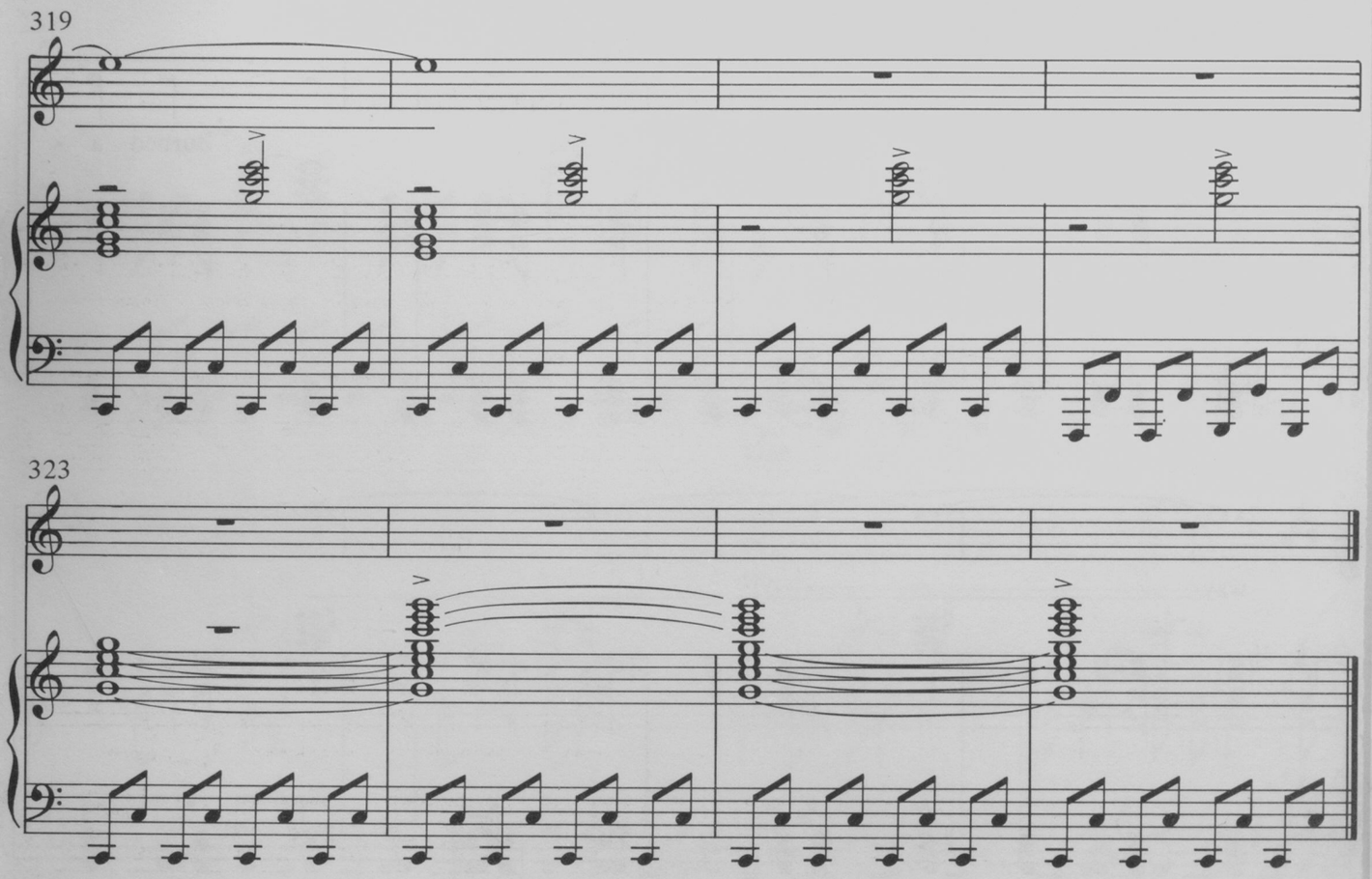

245
ff marcato
249
253
257


261
Voice:
But there'll
264
be a thick and smok - y
267
si - lence in the air
270
When the
8va


273
fire
fin - 'lly
dies
loco
276
Who'll be
left
8va-
loco
279
there
8va-
283
loco

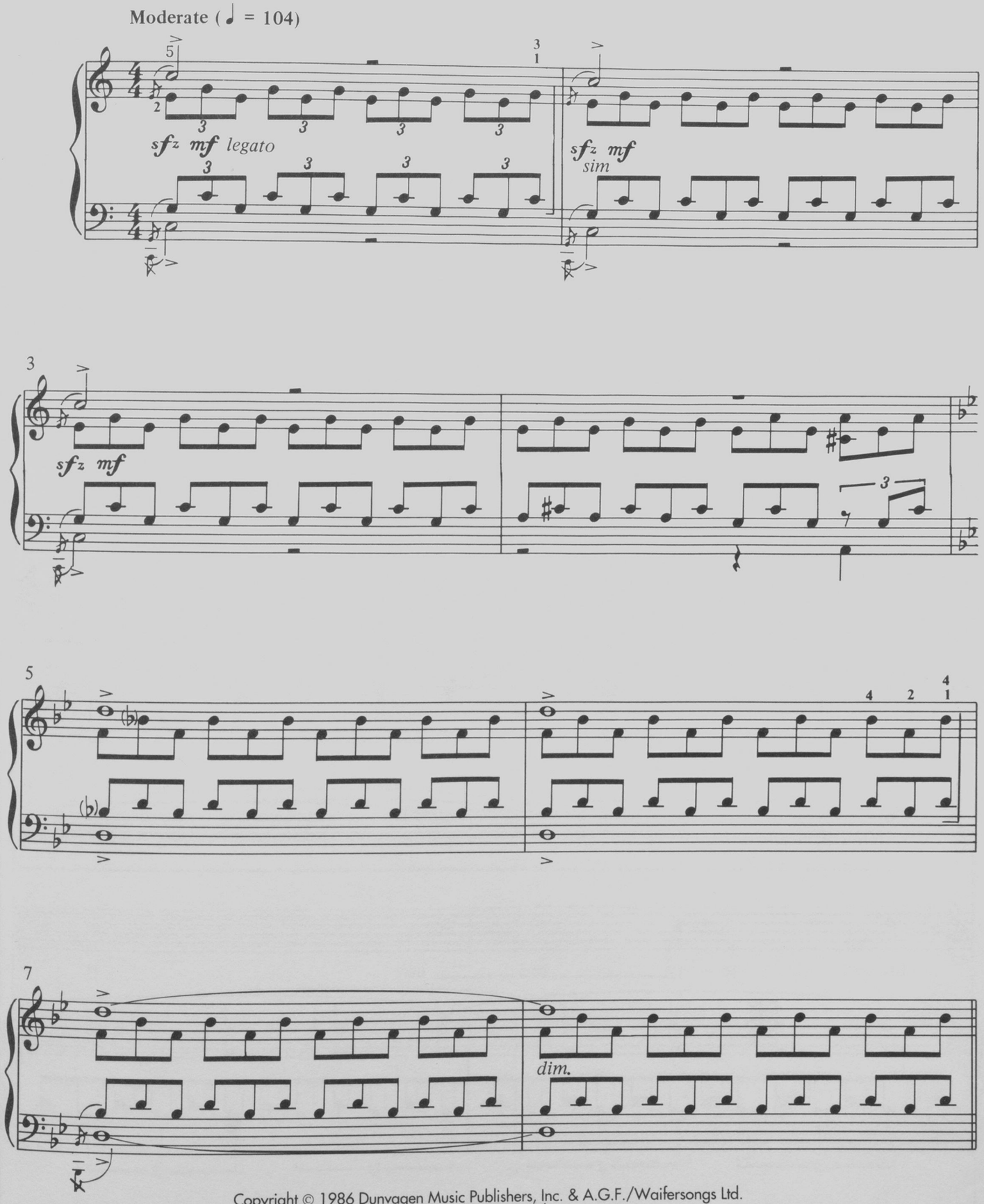

287
8va
loco
291
Oh,
8va
loco
295
In
the ash - es of
mp legato
p
simile
299
time


303
Burned a -
307
way
311
Burned a -
315
way


319
323

FREEZING

Music by Philip Glass ▼ Words by Suzanne Vega



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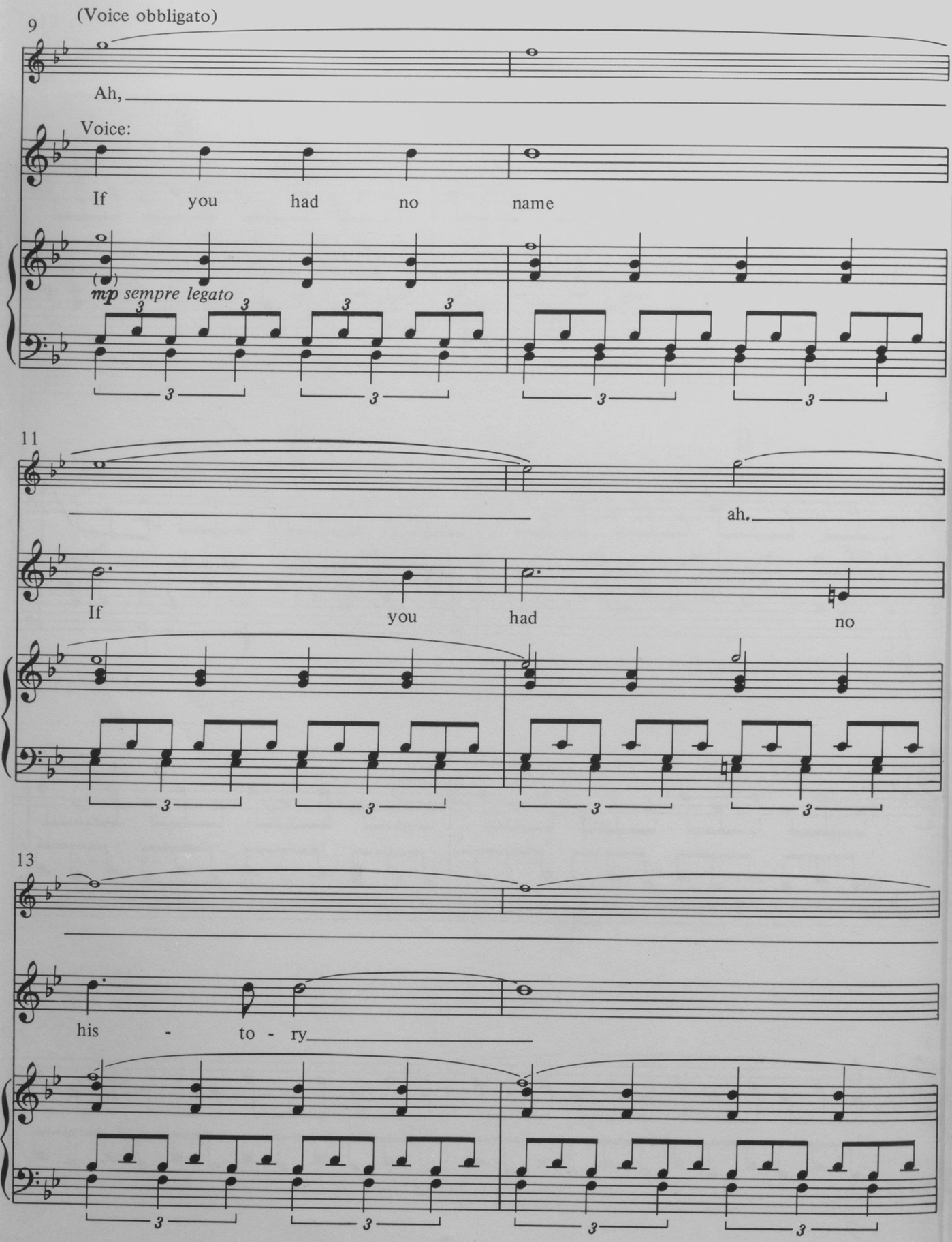
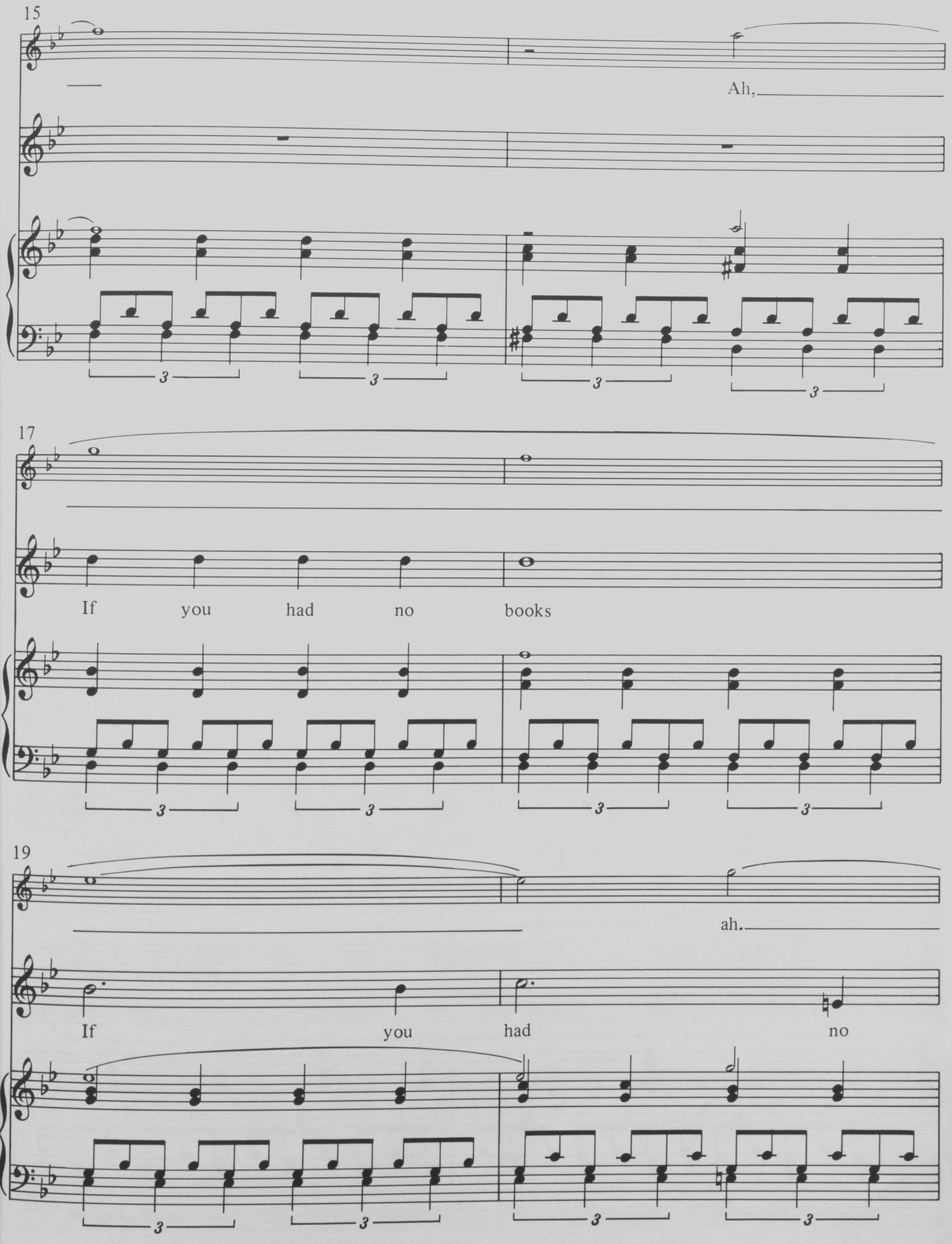
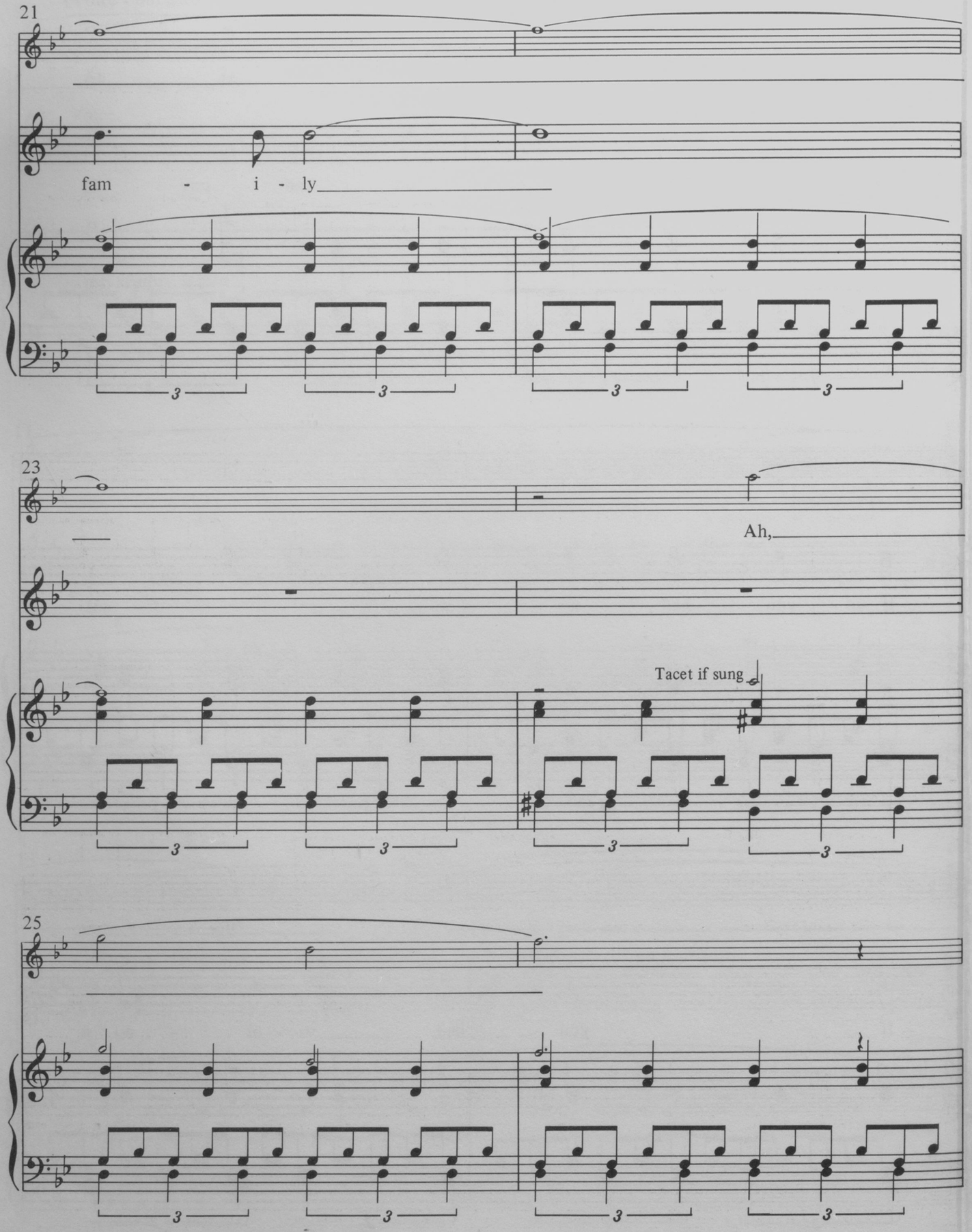
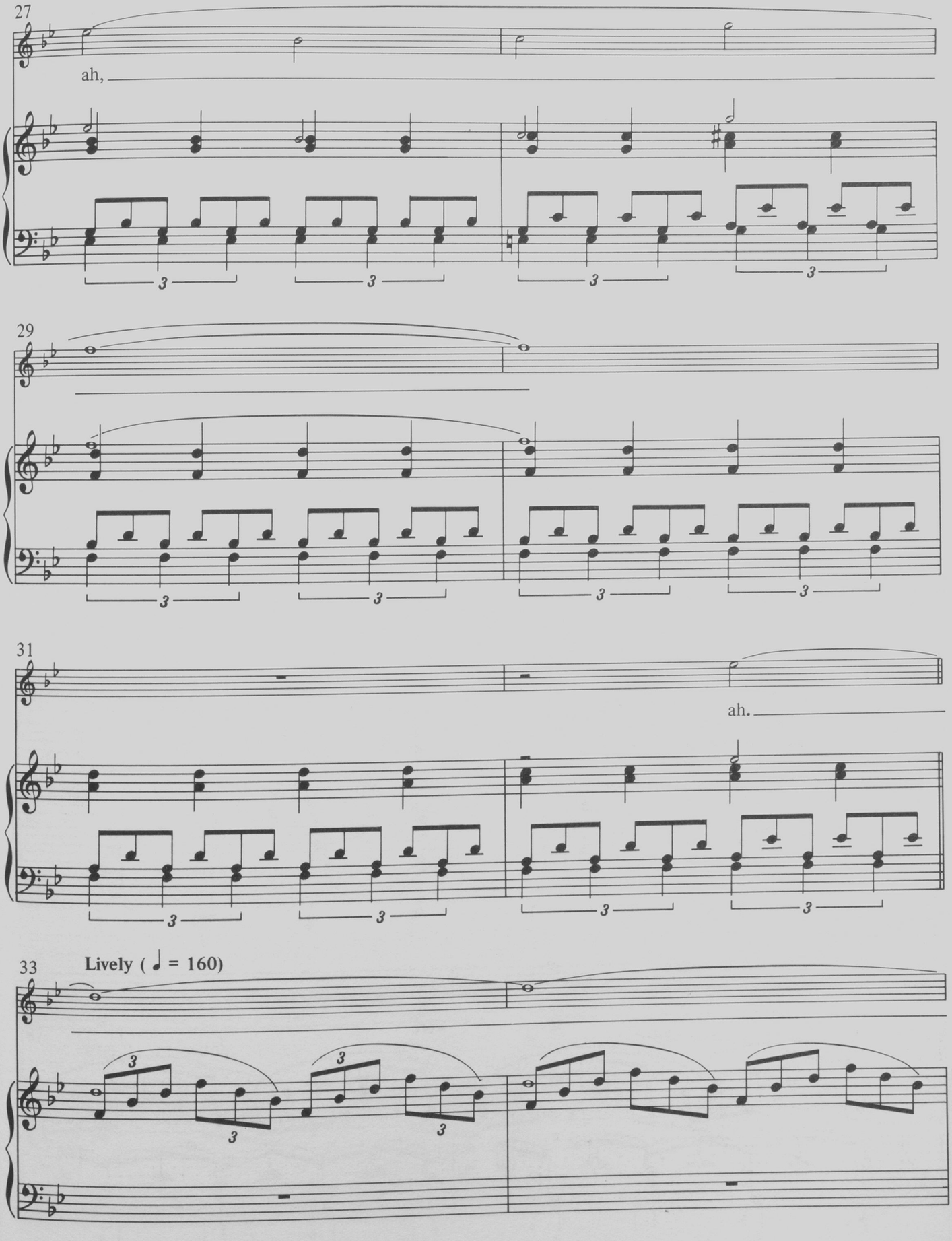
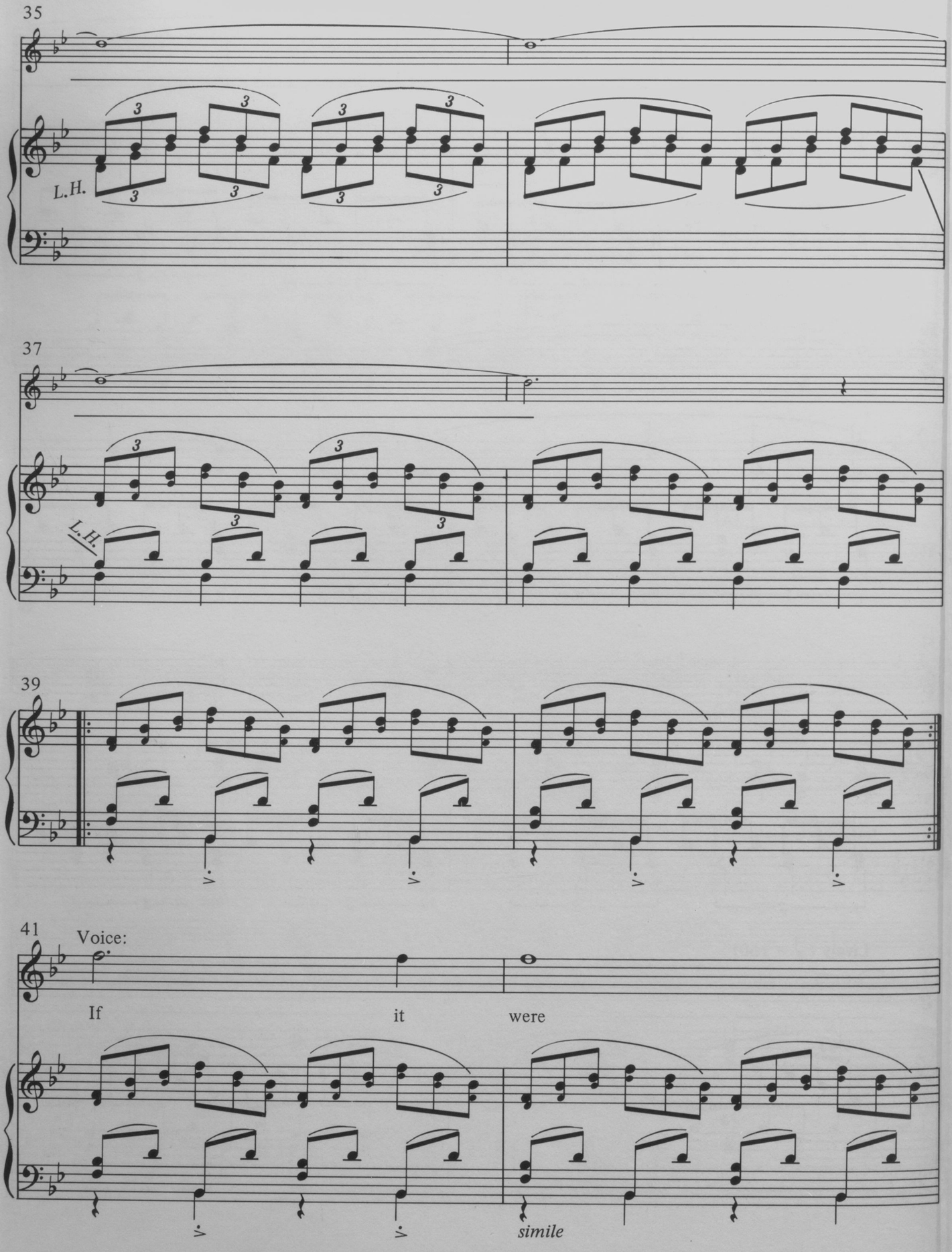
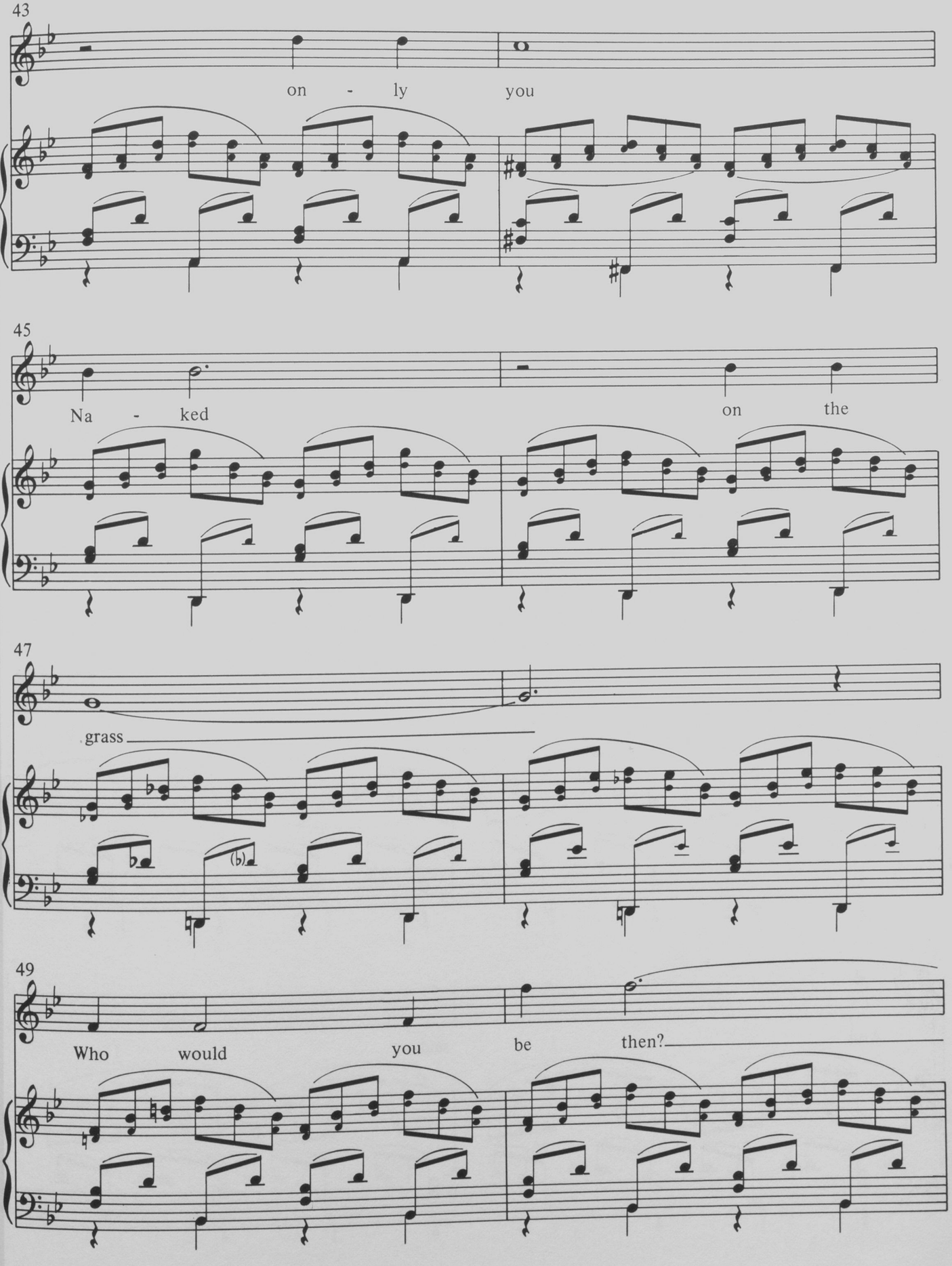

9
(Voice obbligato)
Ah,
Voice:
If you had no name
mp sempre legato
11
ah.
If you had no
13
his - to - ry

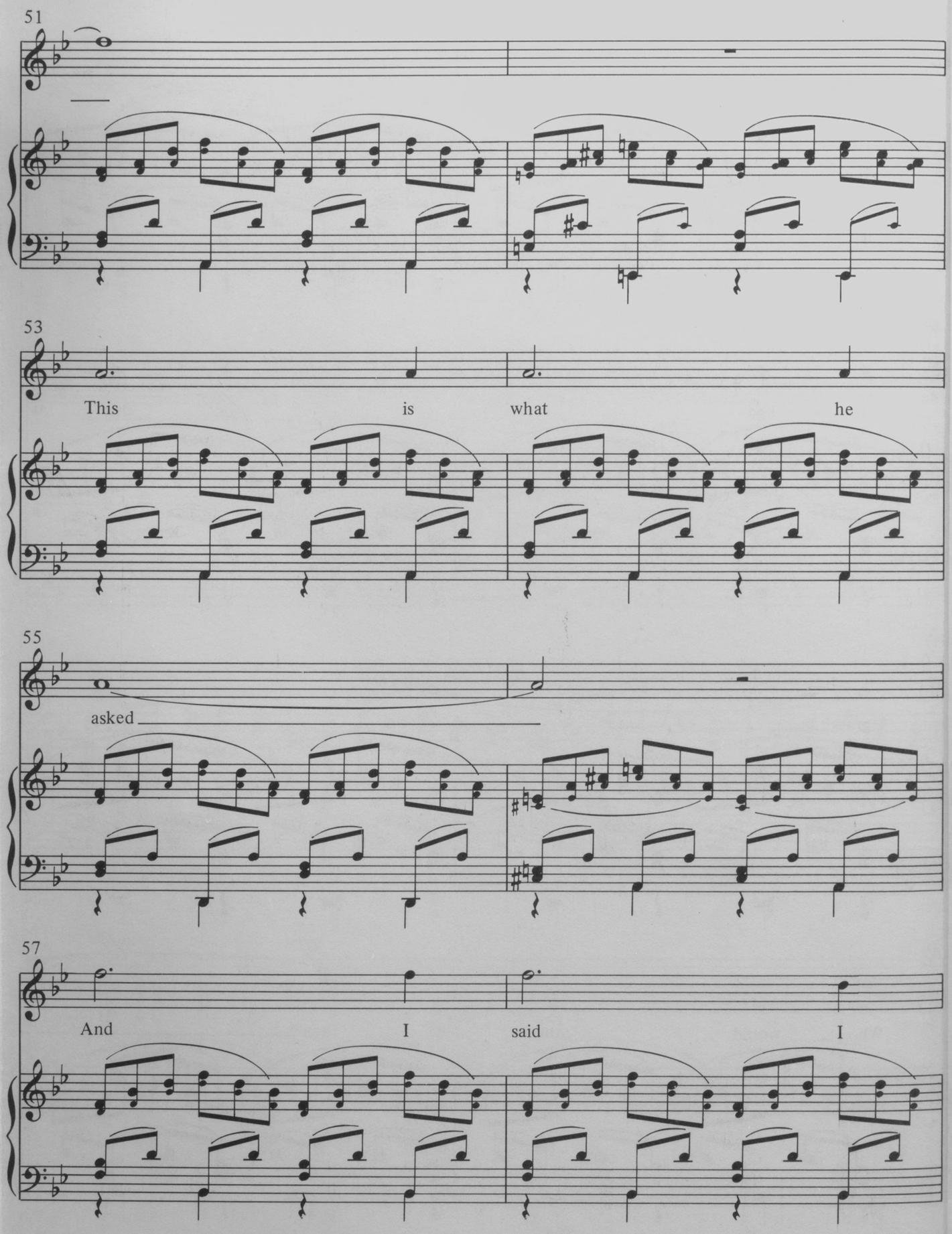

15
Ah,
17
If you had no books
19
ah.
If you had no

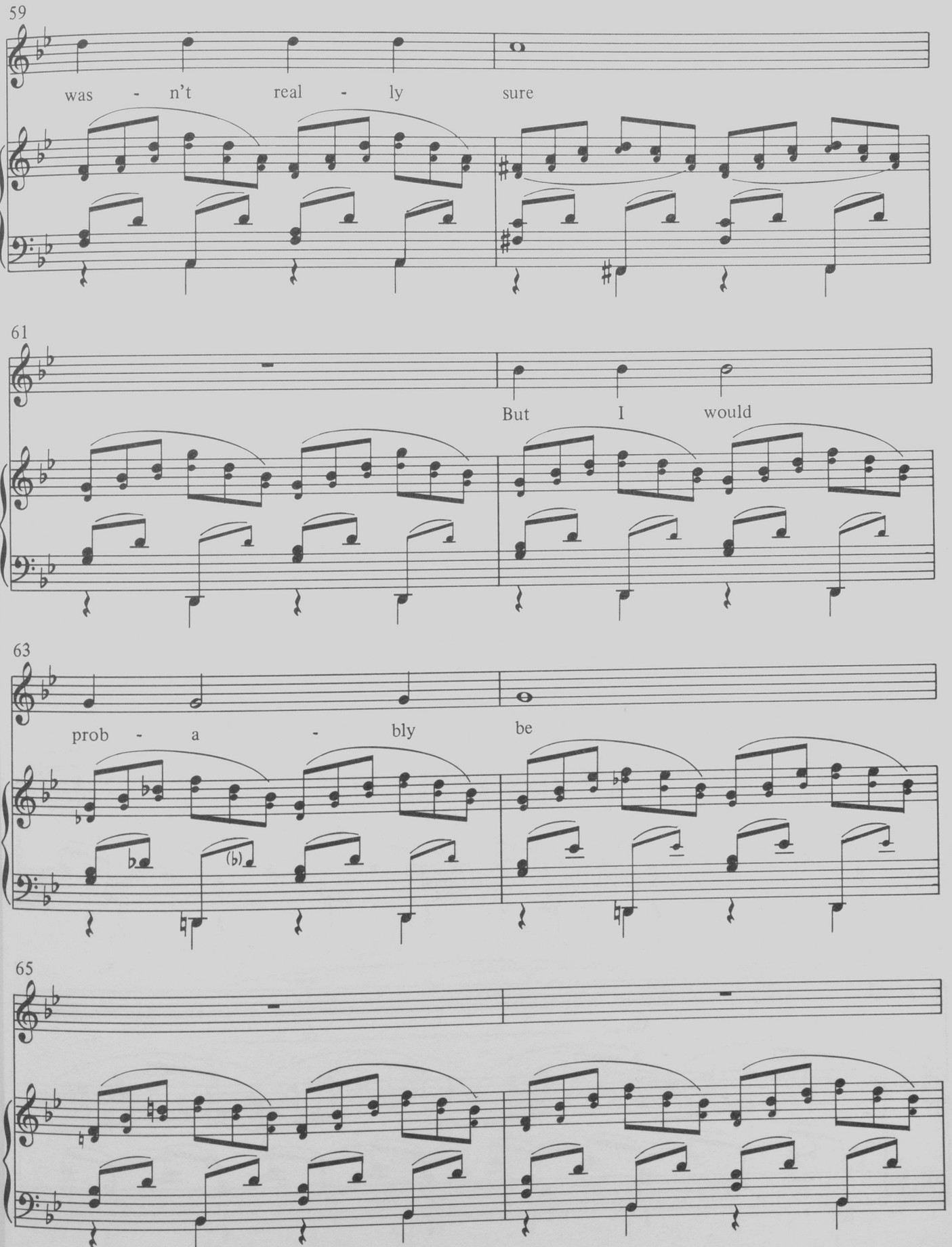

21
fam - i - ly
23
Ah,
Tacet if sung
25

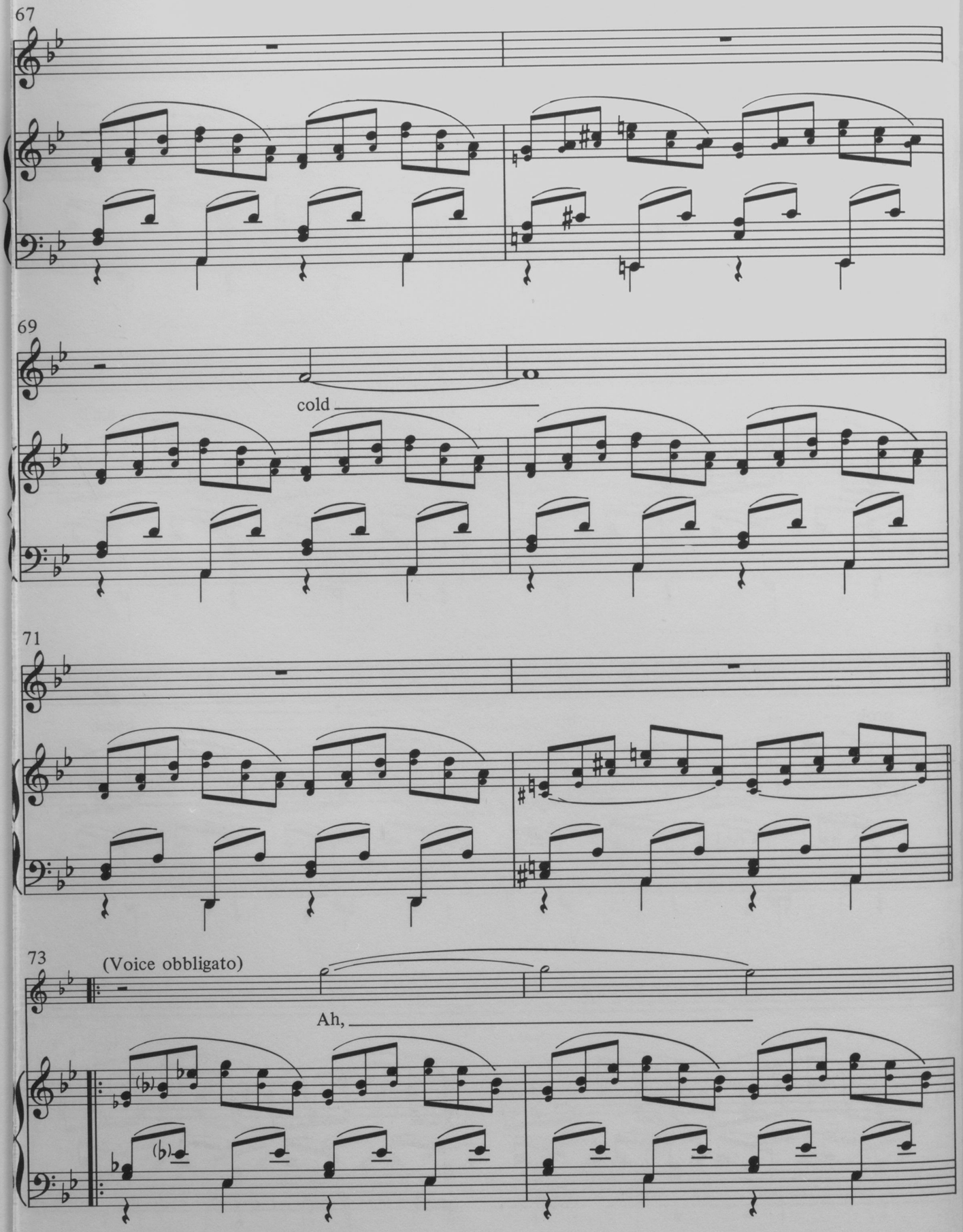

27
ah,
29
31
ah.
33
Lively (♩ = 160)

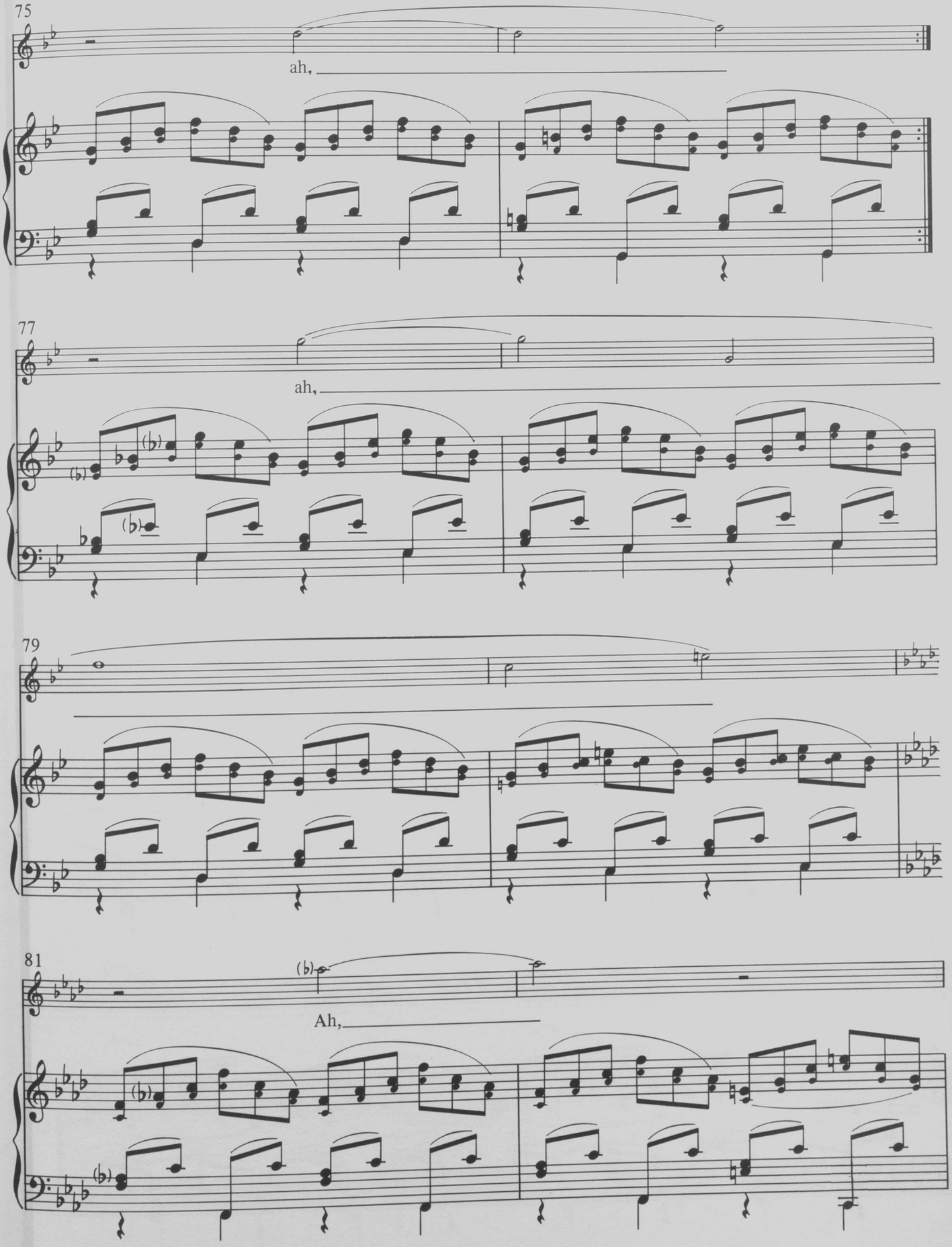

35
L.H.
37
L.H.
39
41
Voice:
If
it
were
simile

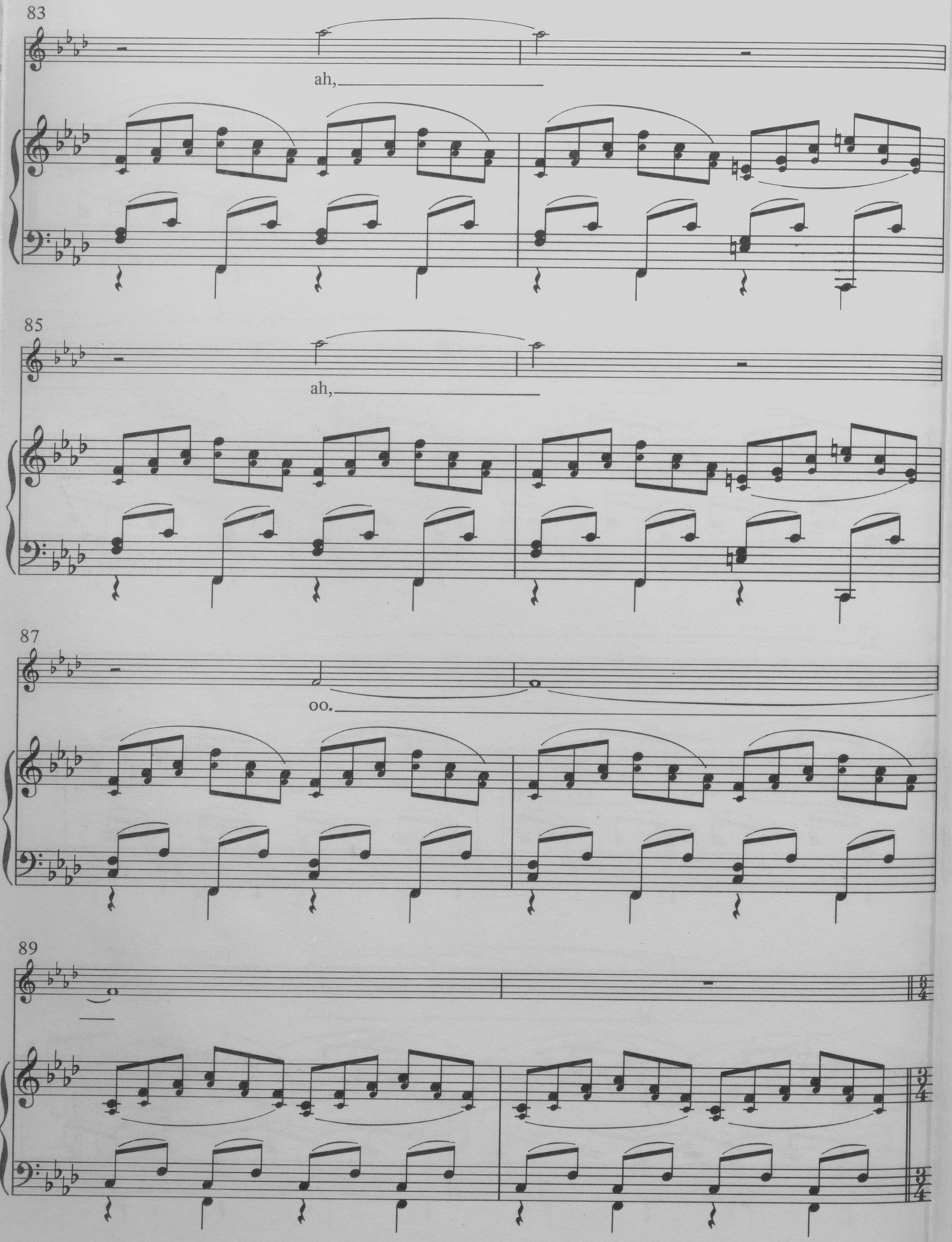

43
on - ly you
45
Na - ked on the
47
grass
49
Who would you be then?

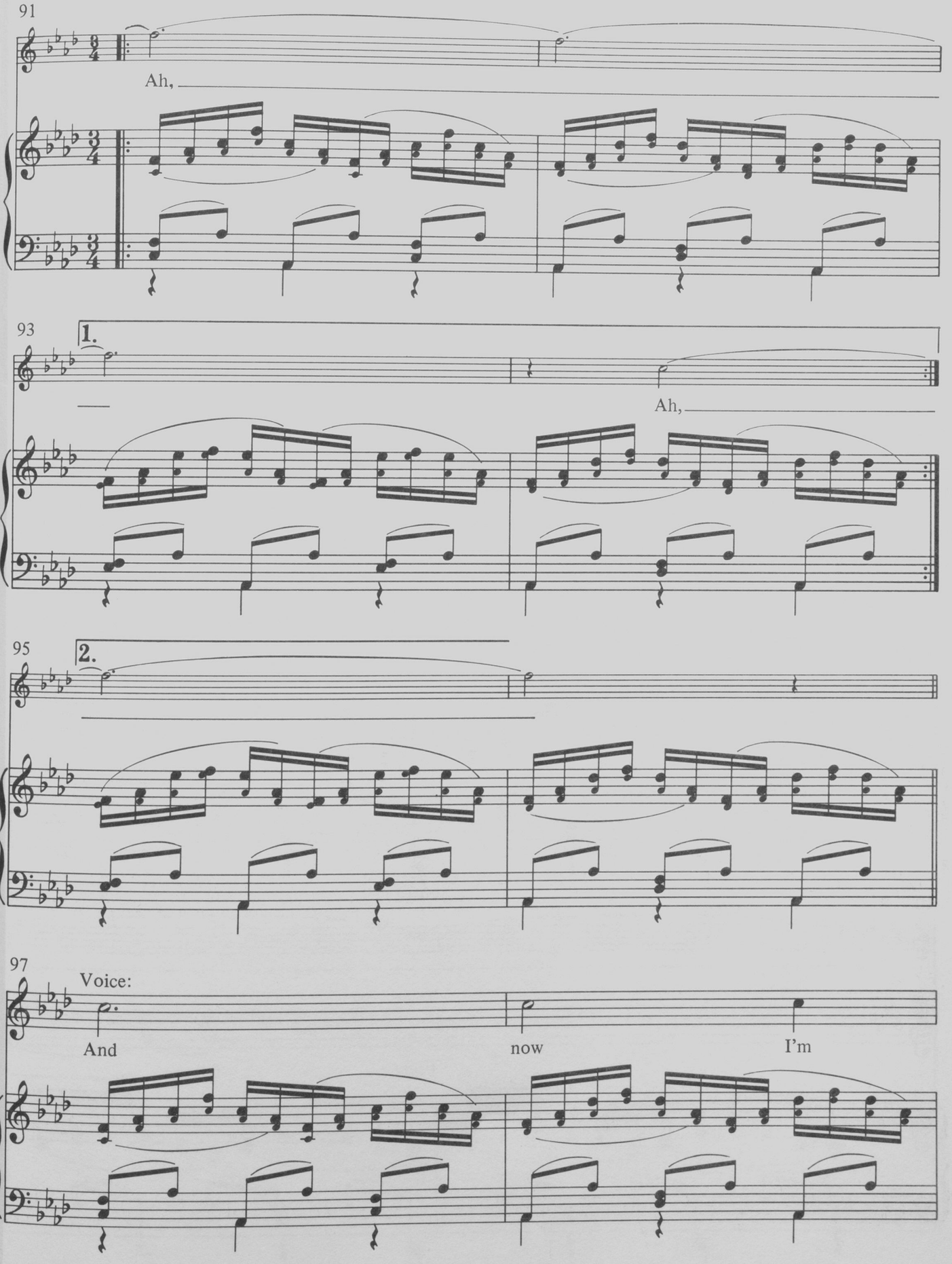

51
53
This is what he
55
asked
57
And I said I

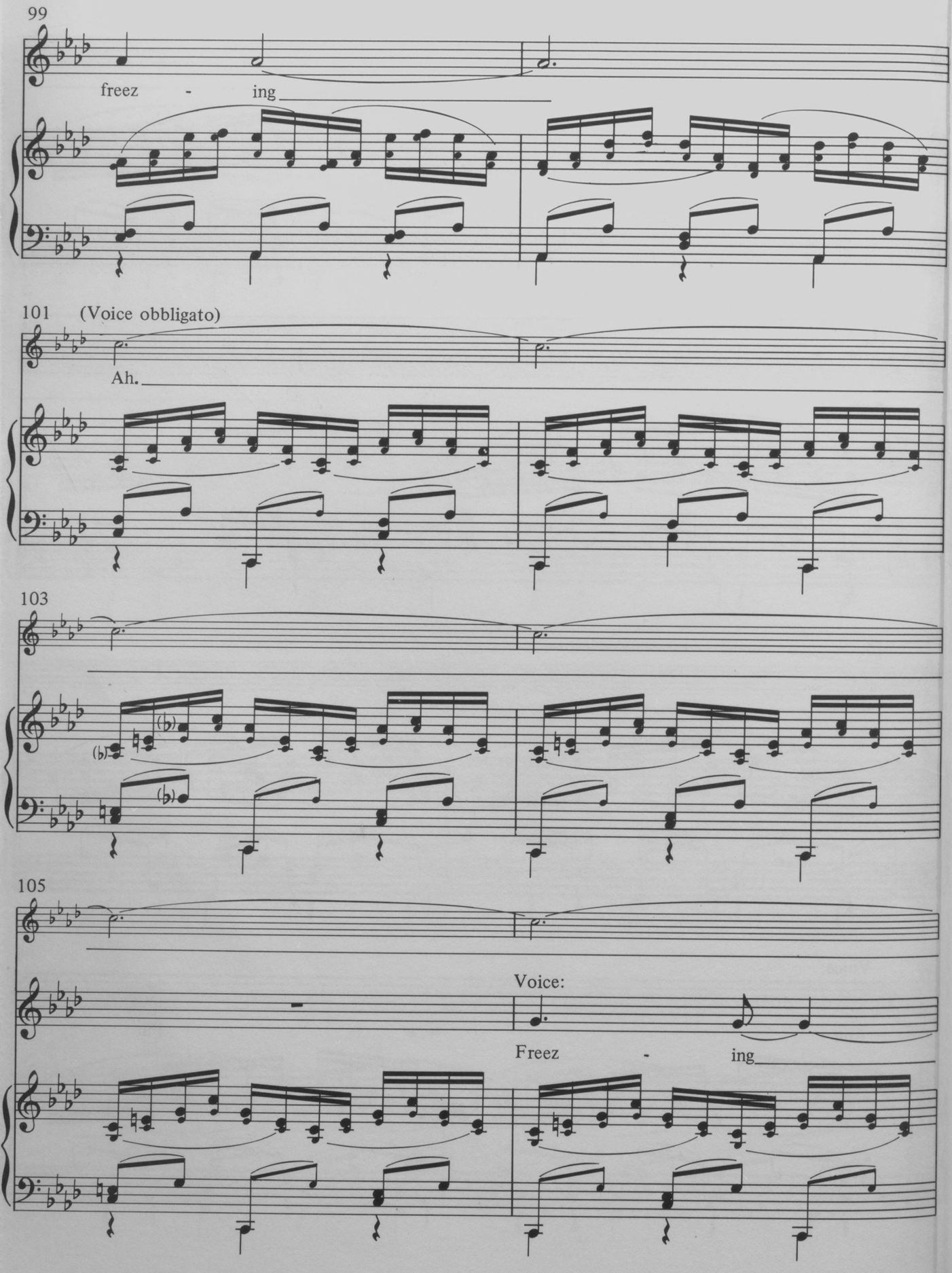

59
was - n't real - ly sure
61
But I would
63
prob - a - bly be
65

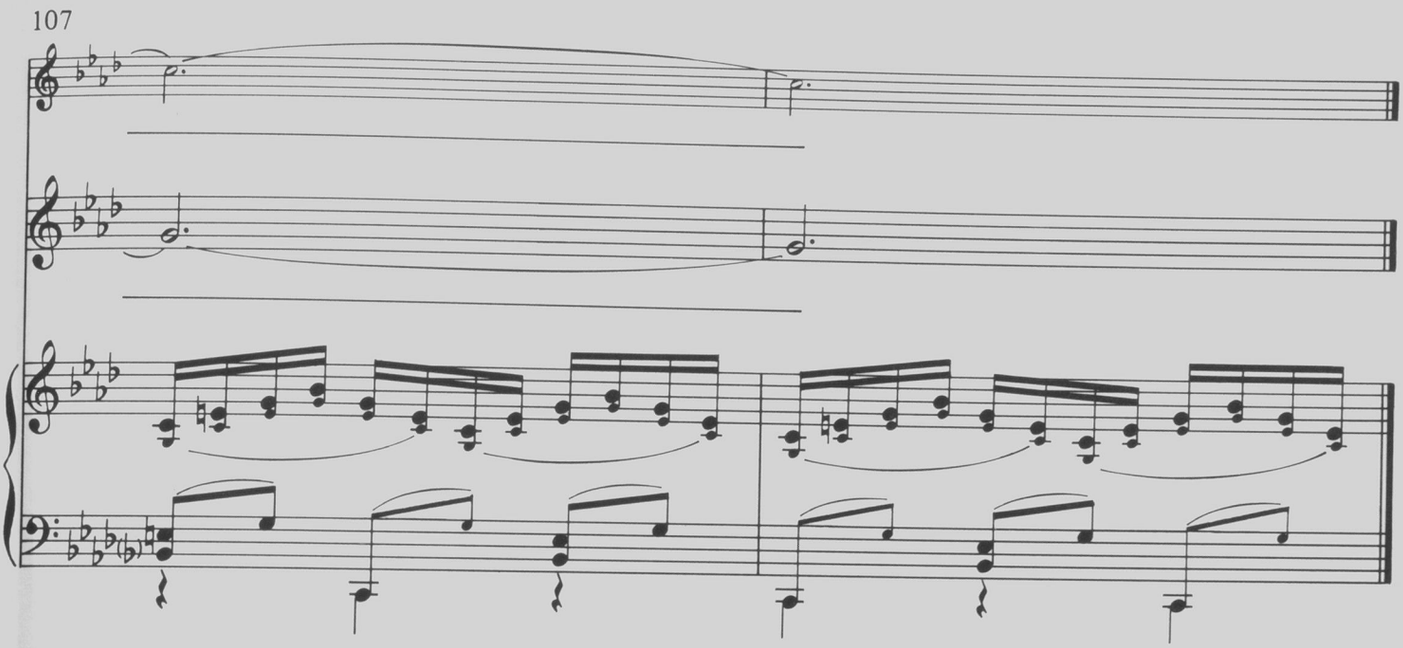

67
69
cold
71
73
(Voice obbligato)
Ah,


75
ah,
77
ah,
79
81
Ah,


83
ah,
85
ah,
87
oo.
89

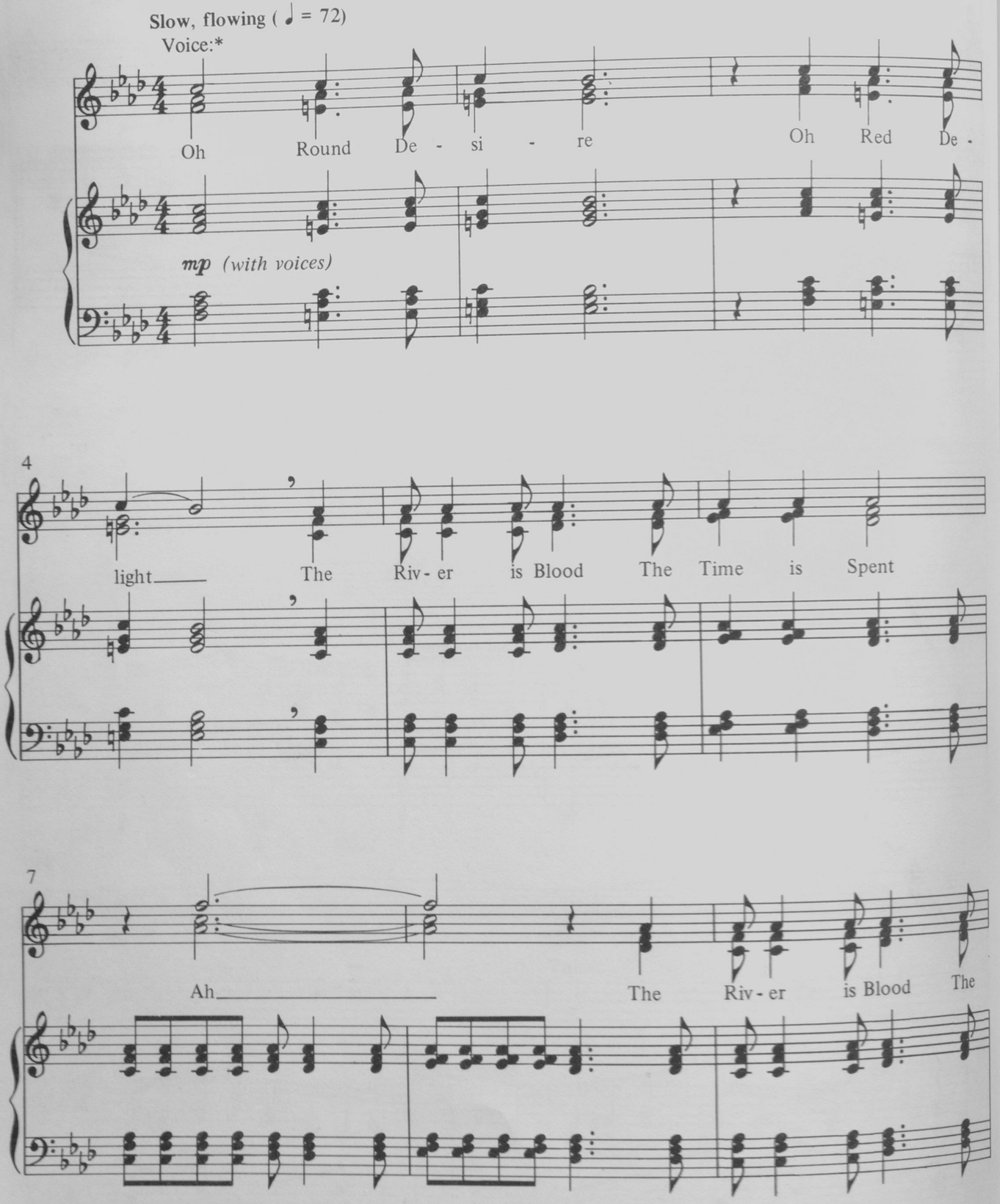

91
Ah,
93
1.
Ah,
95
2.
97
Voice:
And
now
I'm


99
freez - ing
101 (Voice obbligato)
Ah.
103
105
Voice:
Freez - ing


107

LIQUID DAYS
(Part One)

Music by Philip Glass ▼ Words by David Byrne



*If only one voice is available, the upper line may be sung alone.

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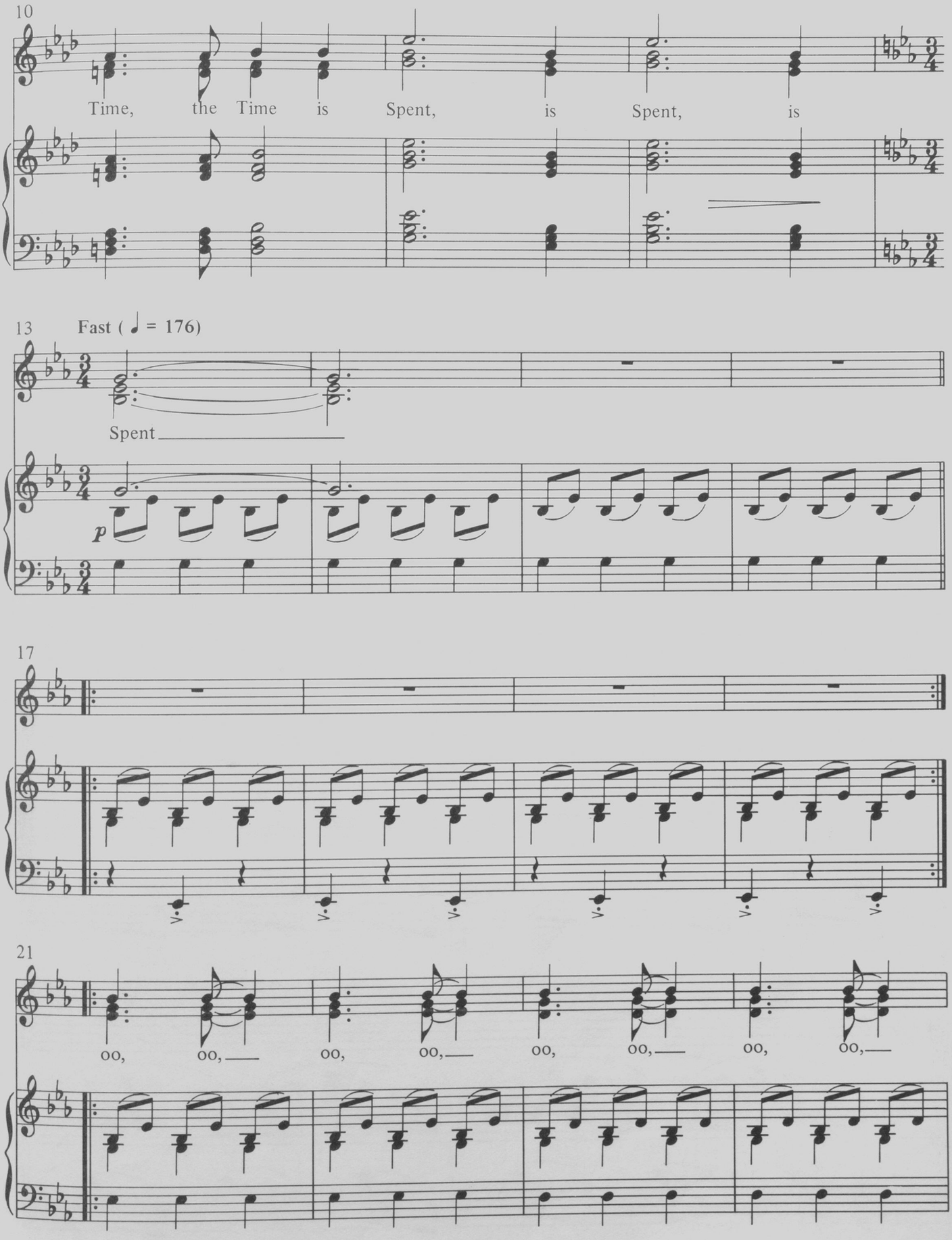
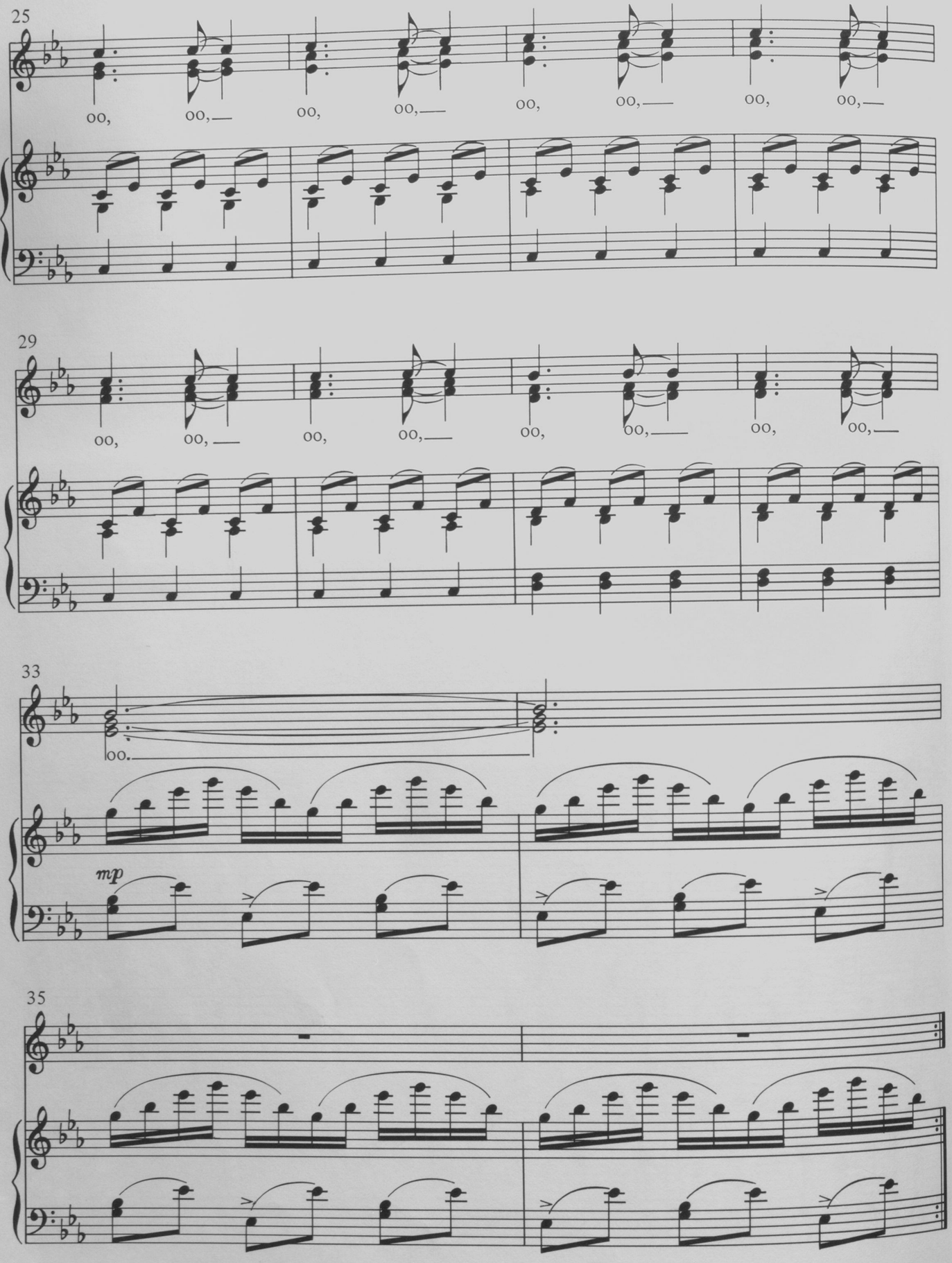
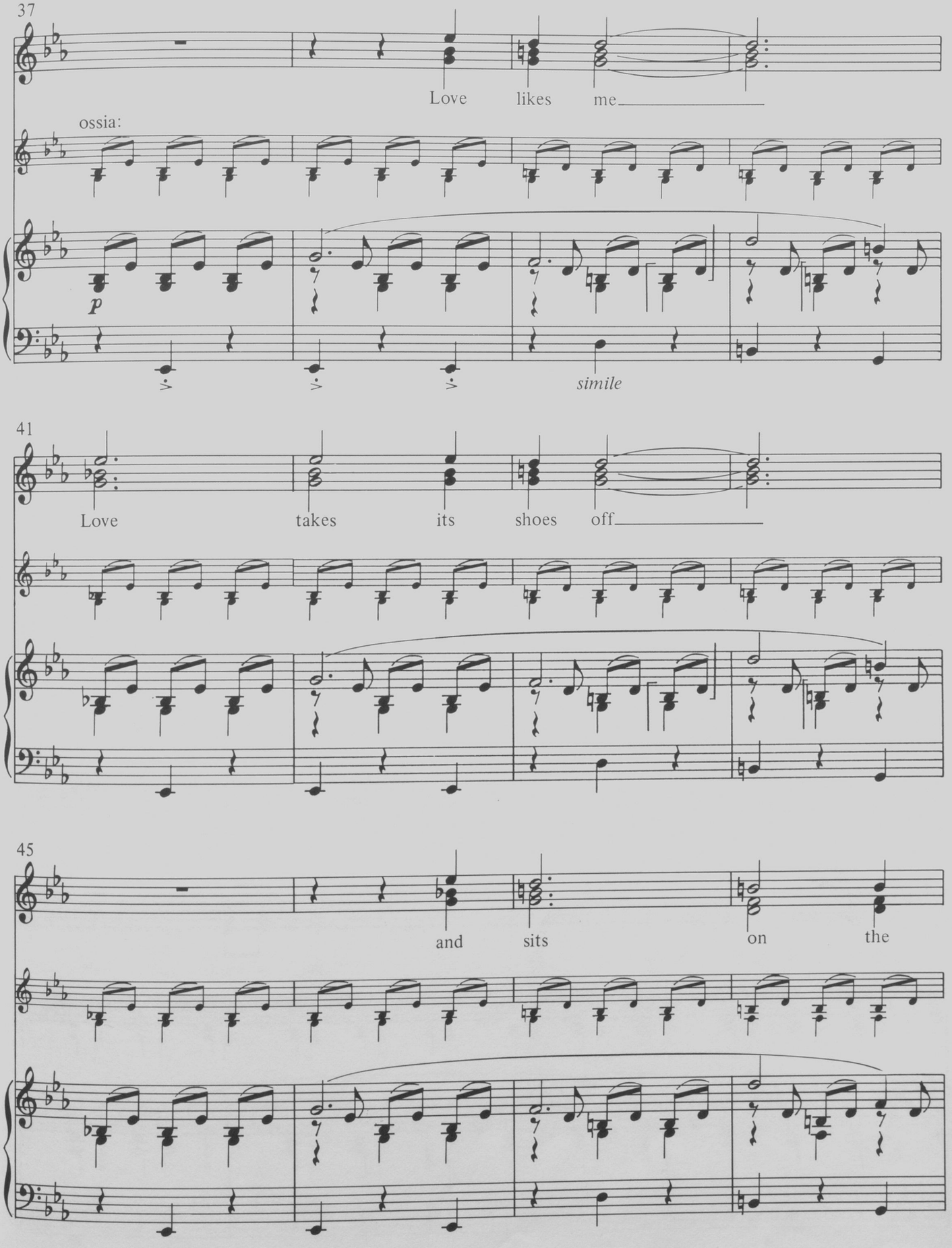
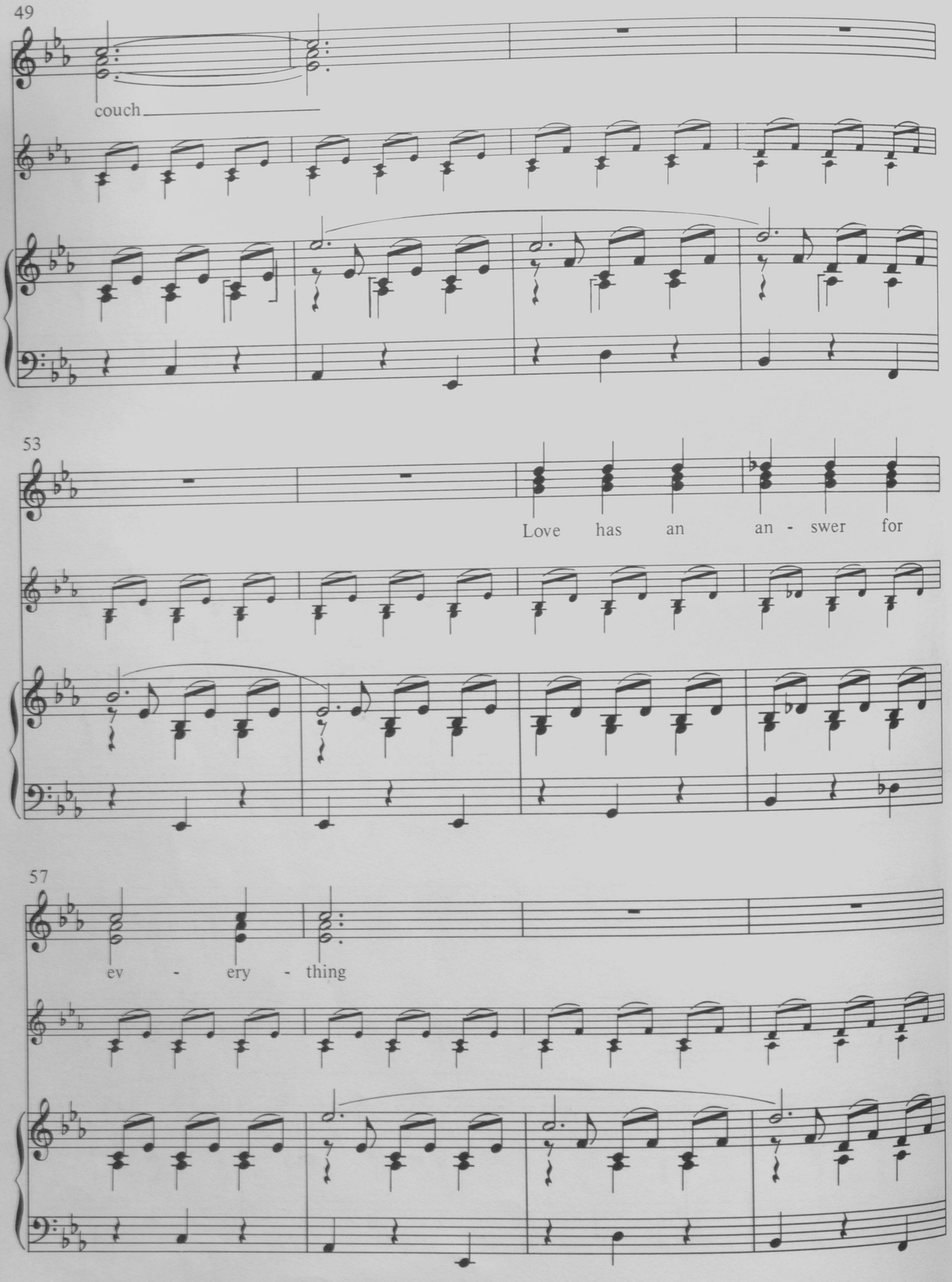
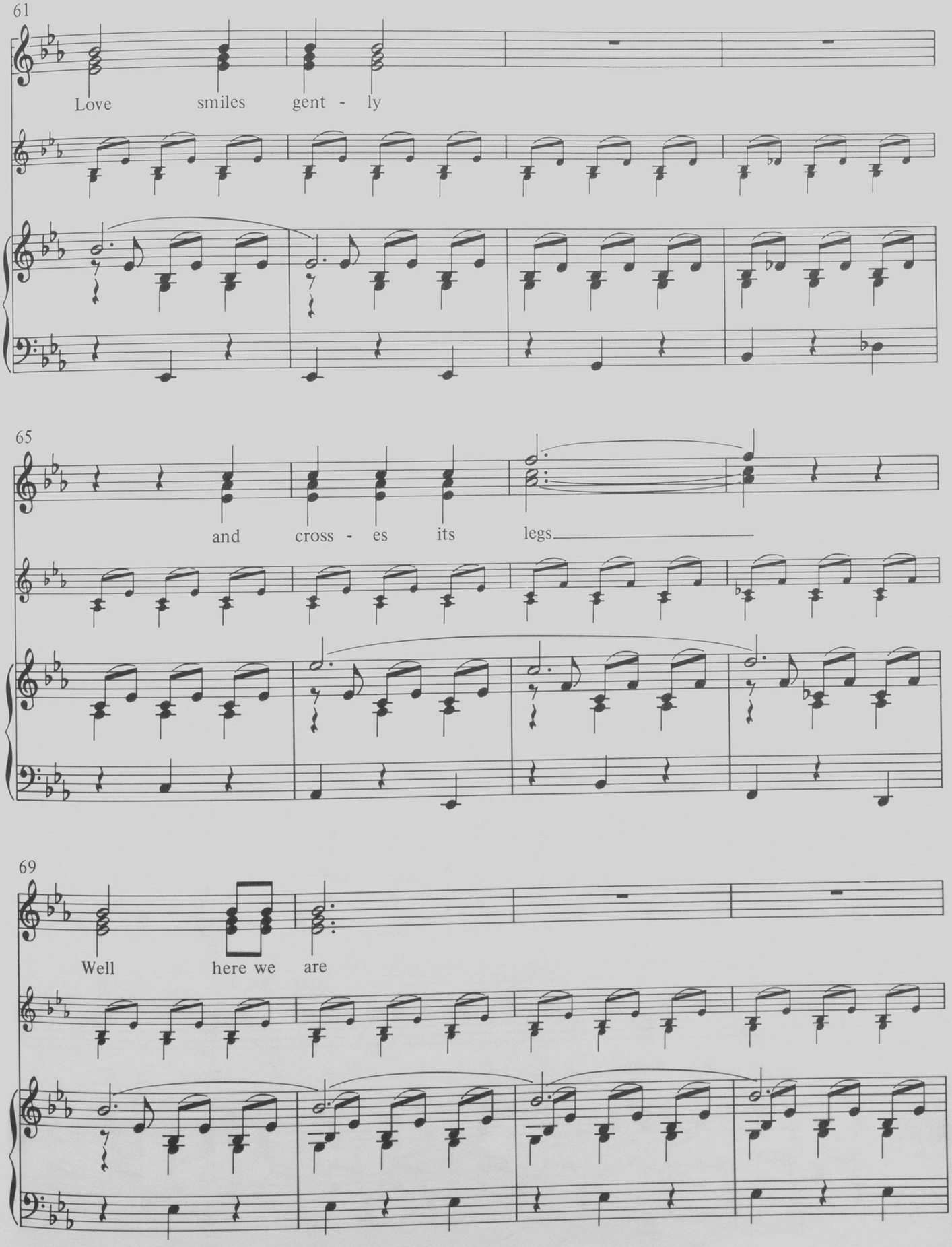
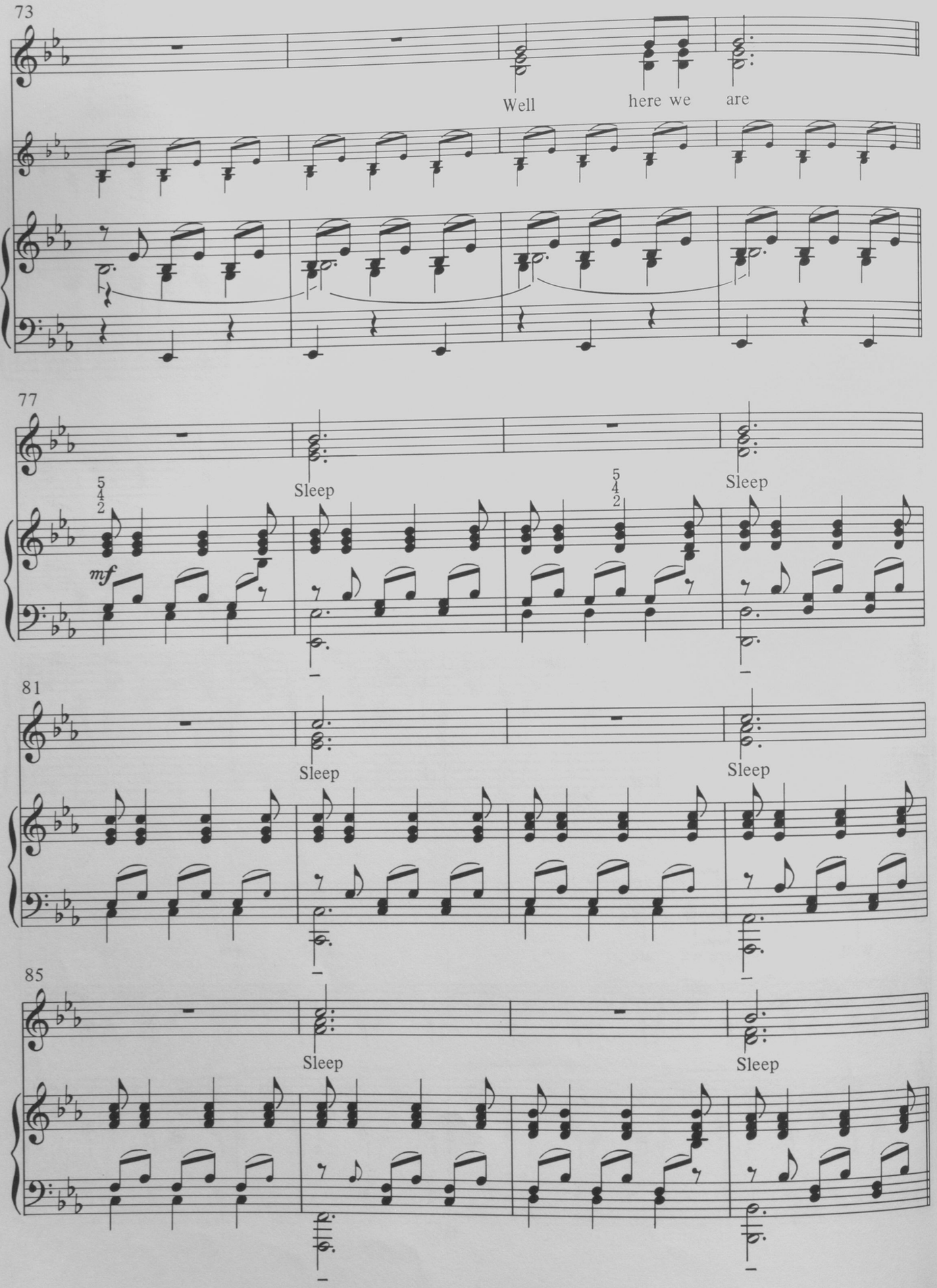

10
Time, the Time is Spent, is Spent, is
13
Fast (♩ = 176)
Spent
p
17
21
oo, oo, oo, oo, oo, oo, oo, oo,

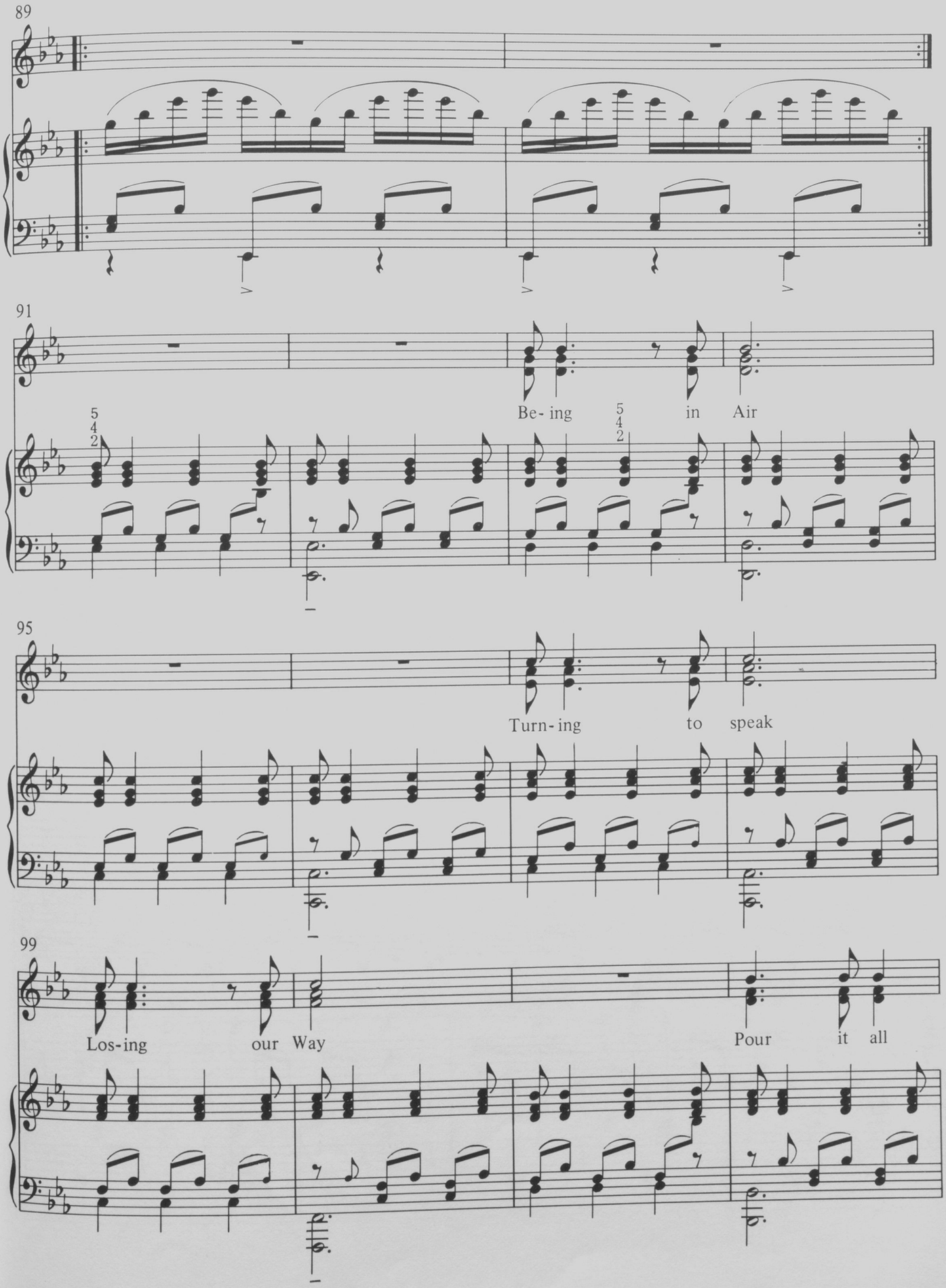

25
oo, oo, oo, oo, oo, oo, oo, oo,
29
oo, oo, oo, oo, oo, oo, oo, oo,
33
oo.
mp
35

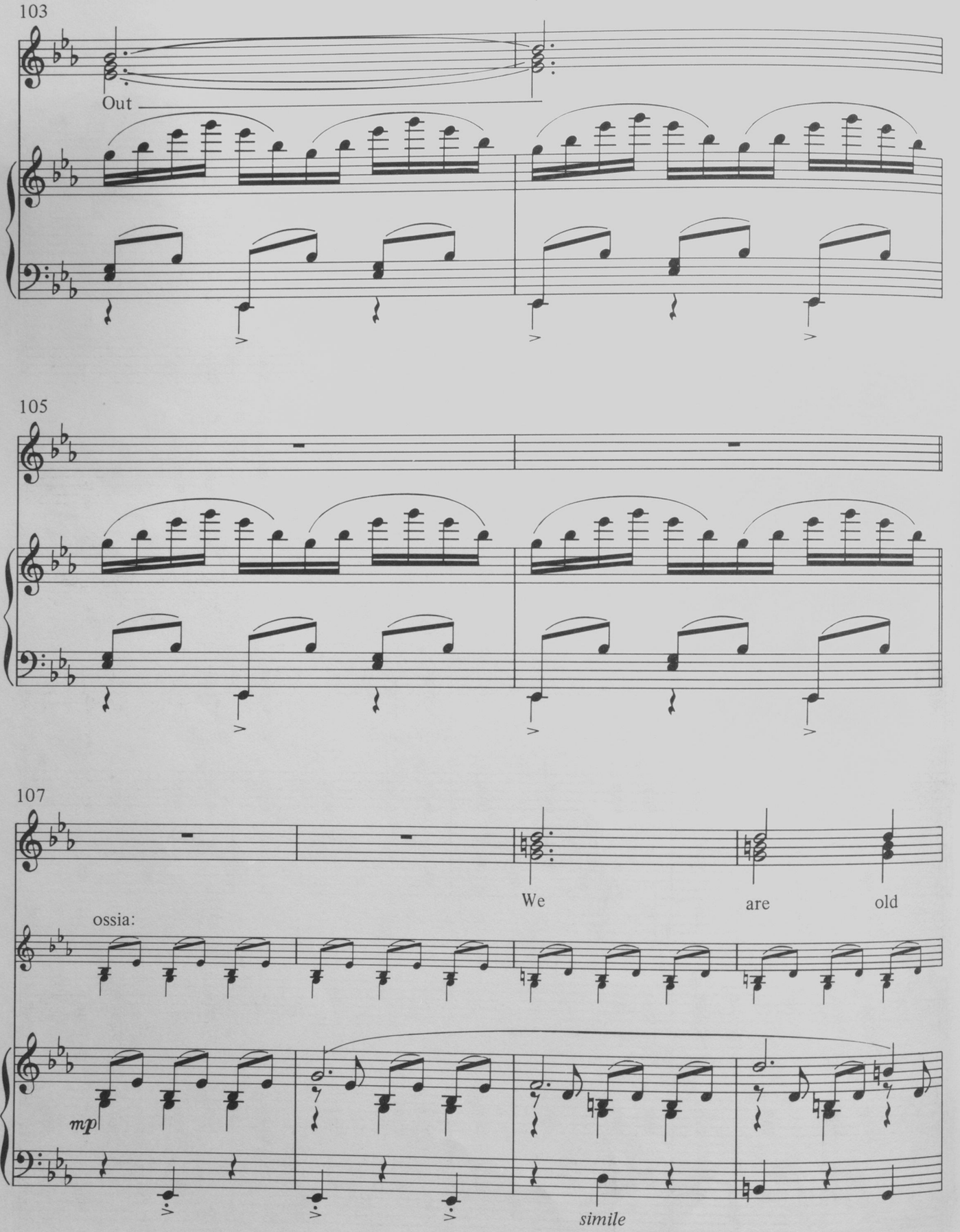

37
Love likes me
ossia:
p
simile
41
Love takes its shoes off
45
and sits on the

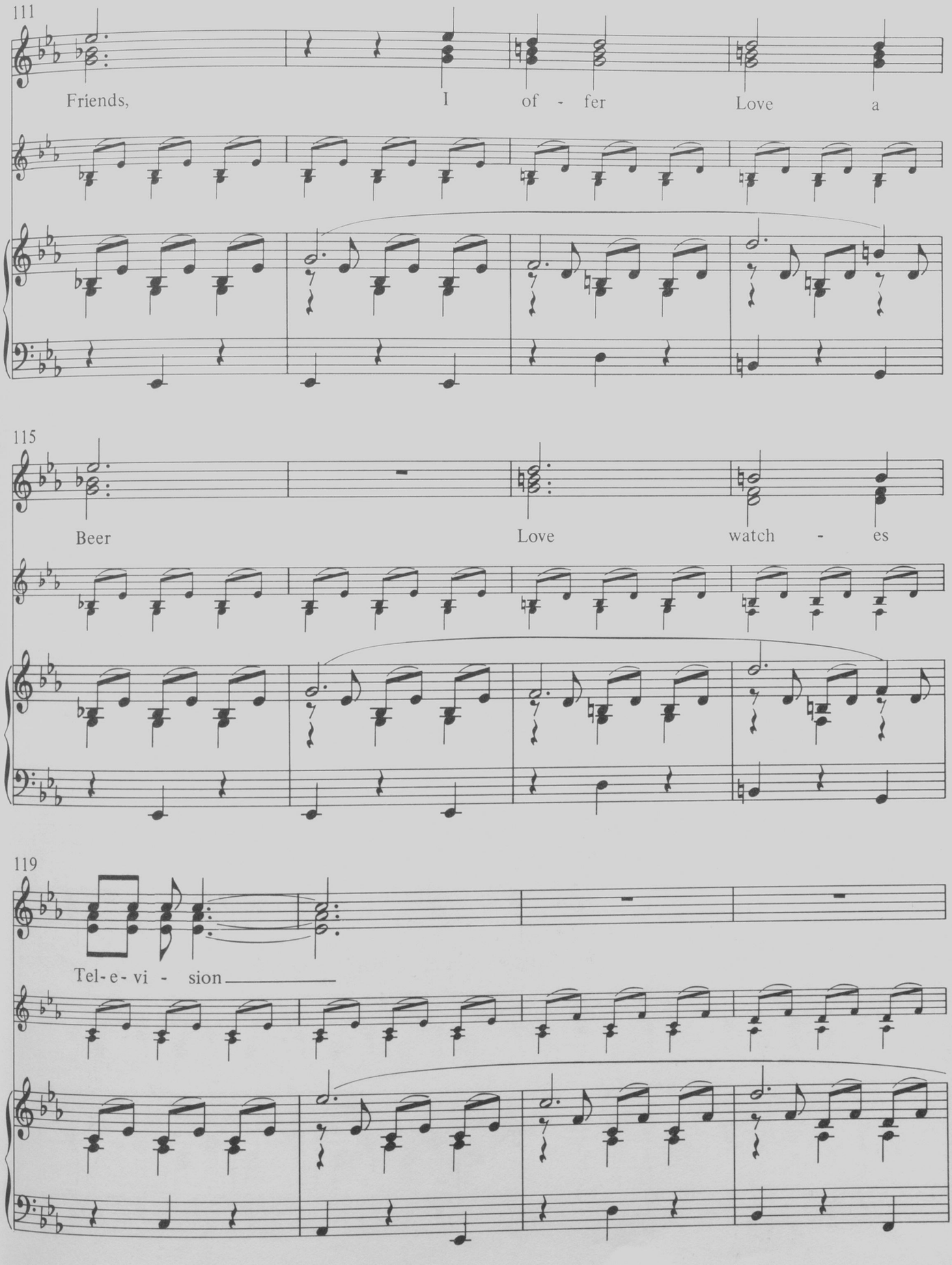

49
couch
53
Love has an an - swer for
57
ev - ery - thing

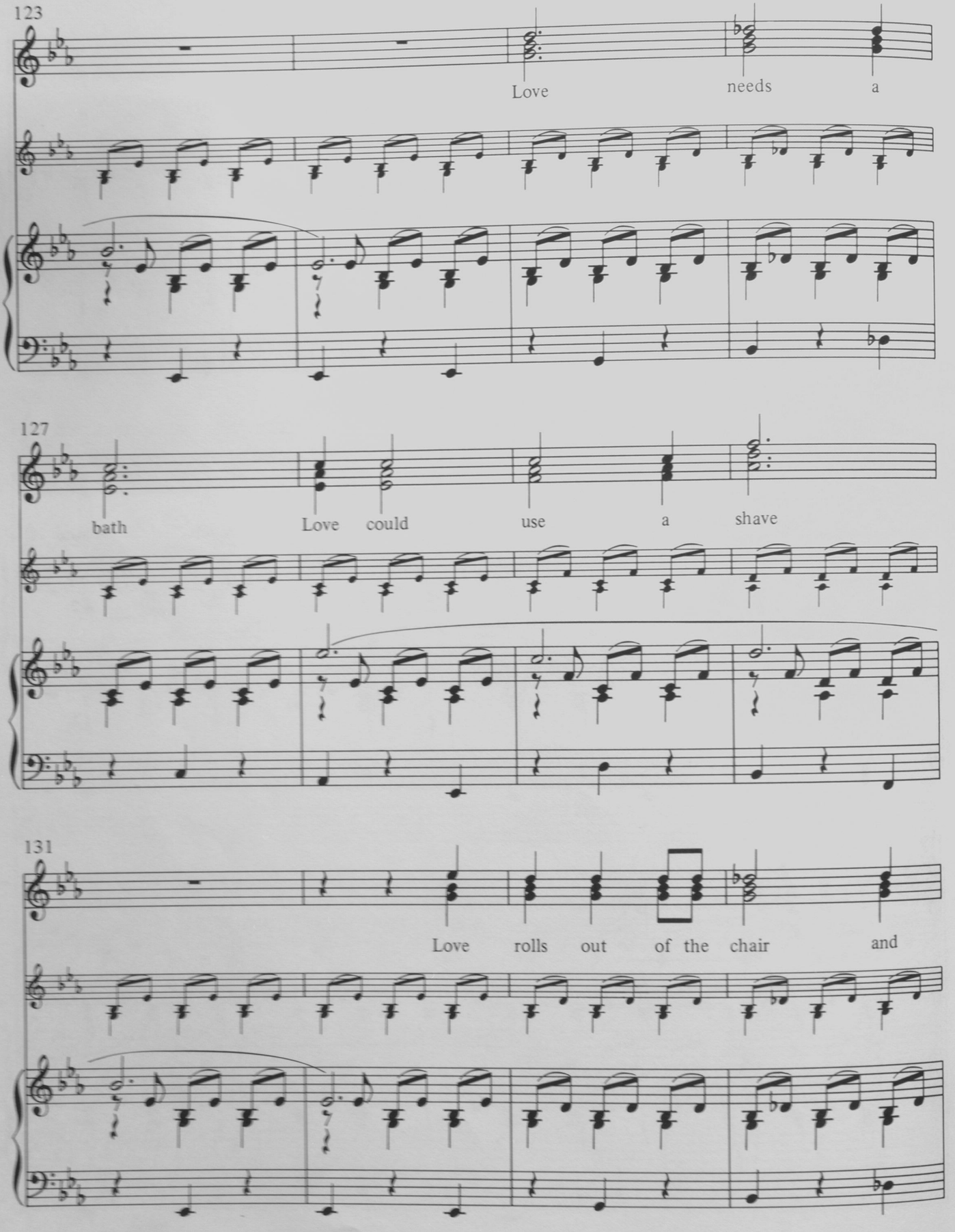

61
Love smiles gent - ly
65
and cross - es its legs
69
Well here we are

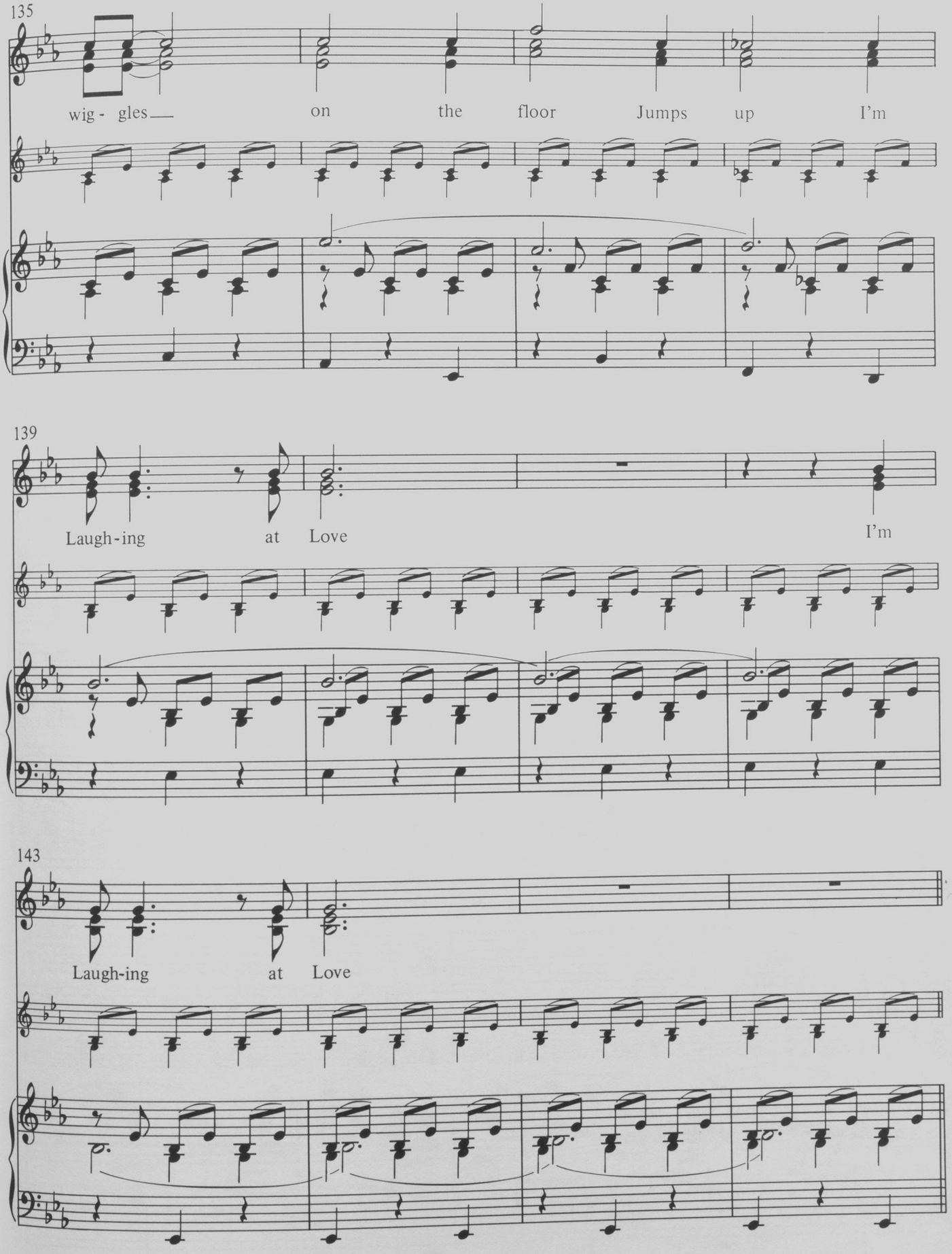

73
Well
here we
are
77
Sleep
Sleep
mf
81
Sleep
Sleep
85
Sleep
Sleep

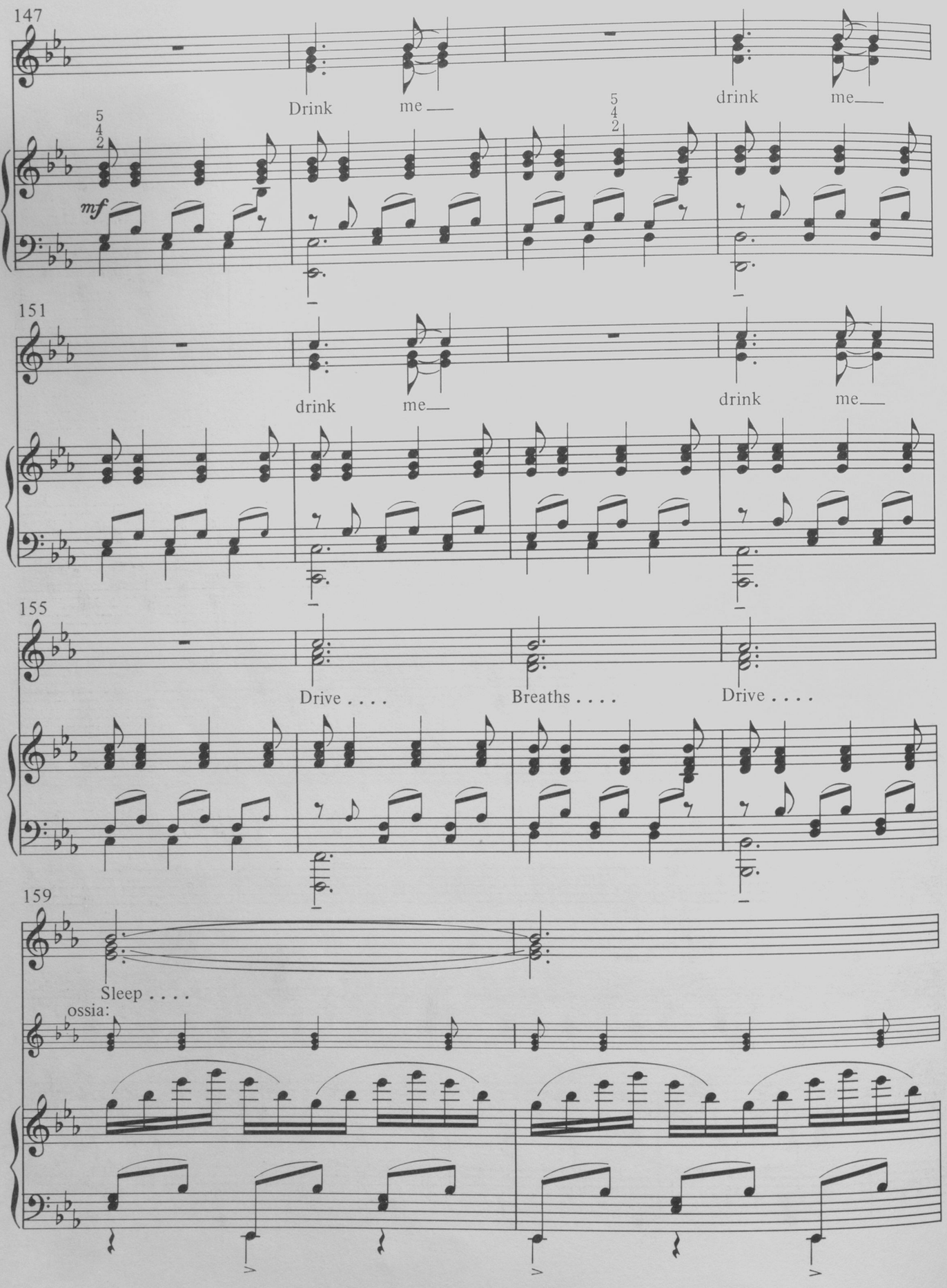

89
91
Be- ing in Air
95
Turn- ing to speak
99
Los- ing our Way
Pour it all

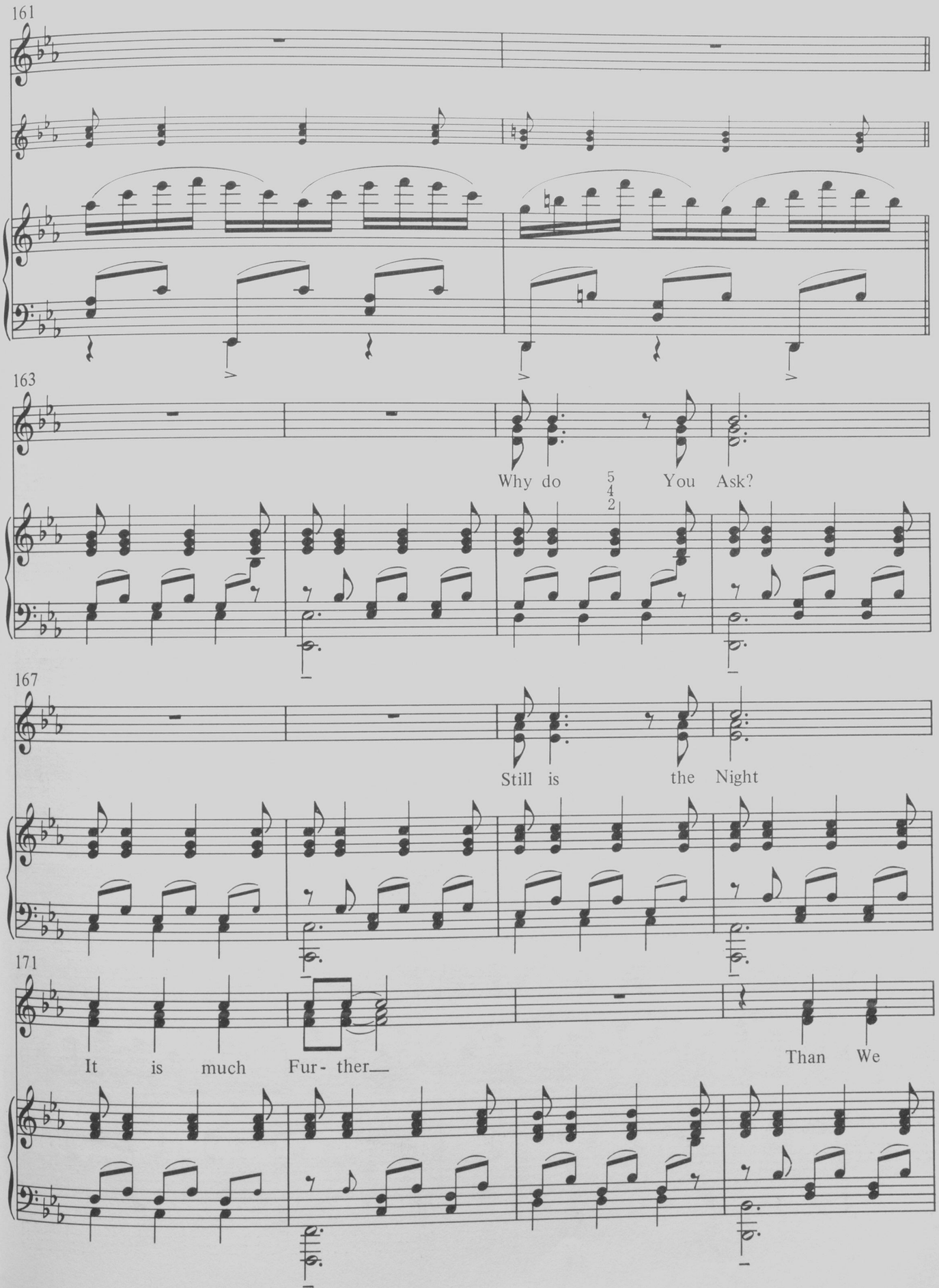

103
Out
105
107
We
are
old
ossia:
mp
simile

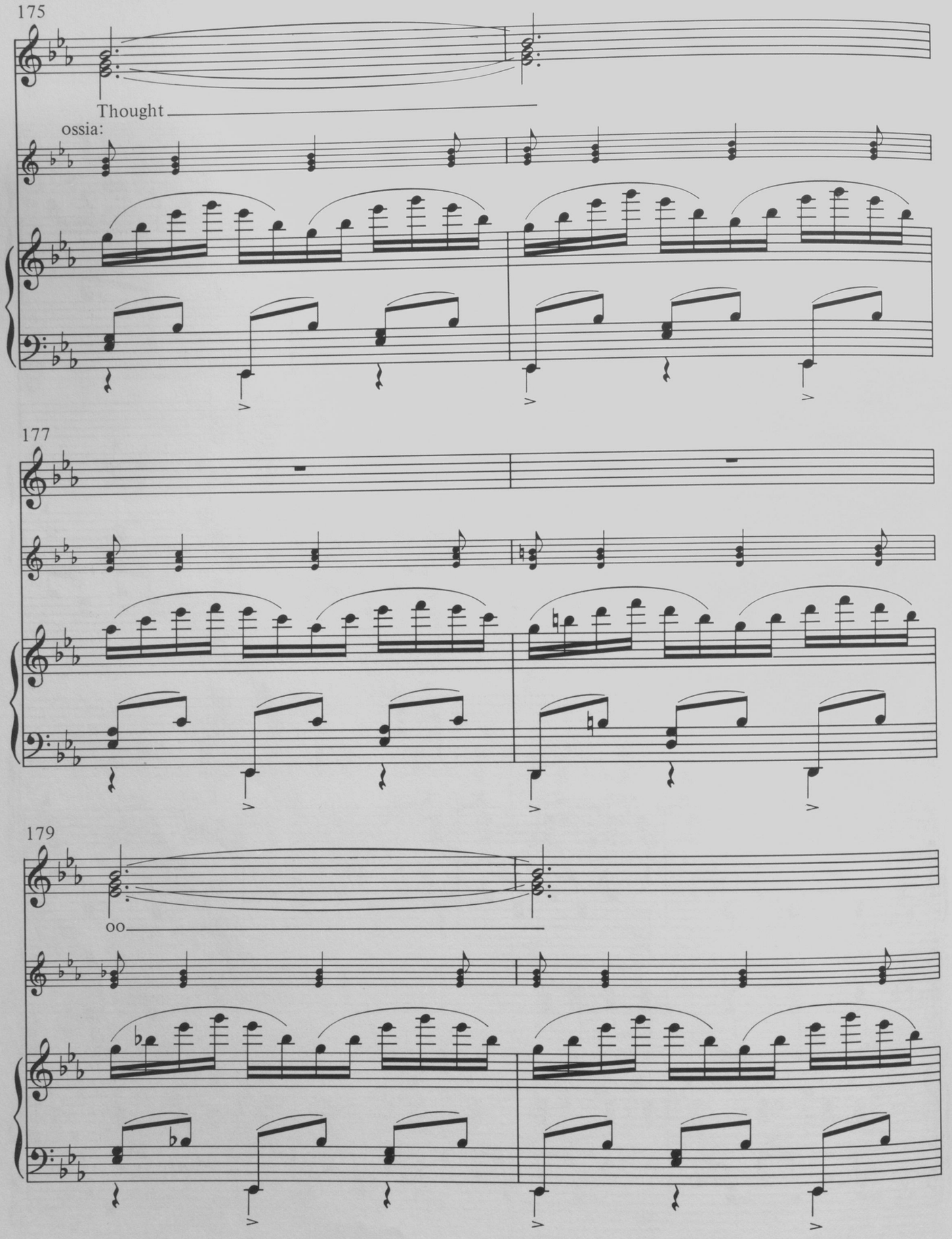

111
Friends, I of - fer Love a
115
Beer Love watch - es
119
Tel- e- vi - sion

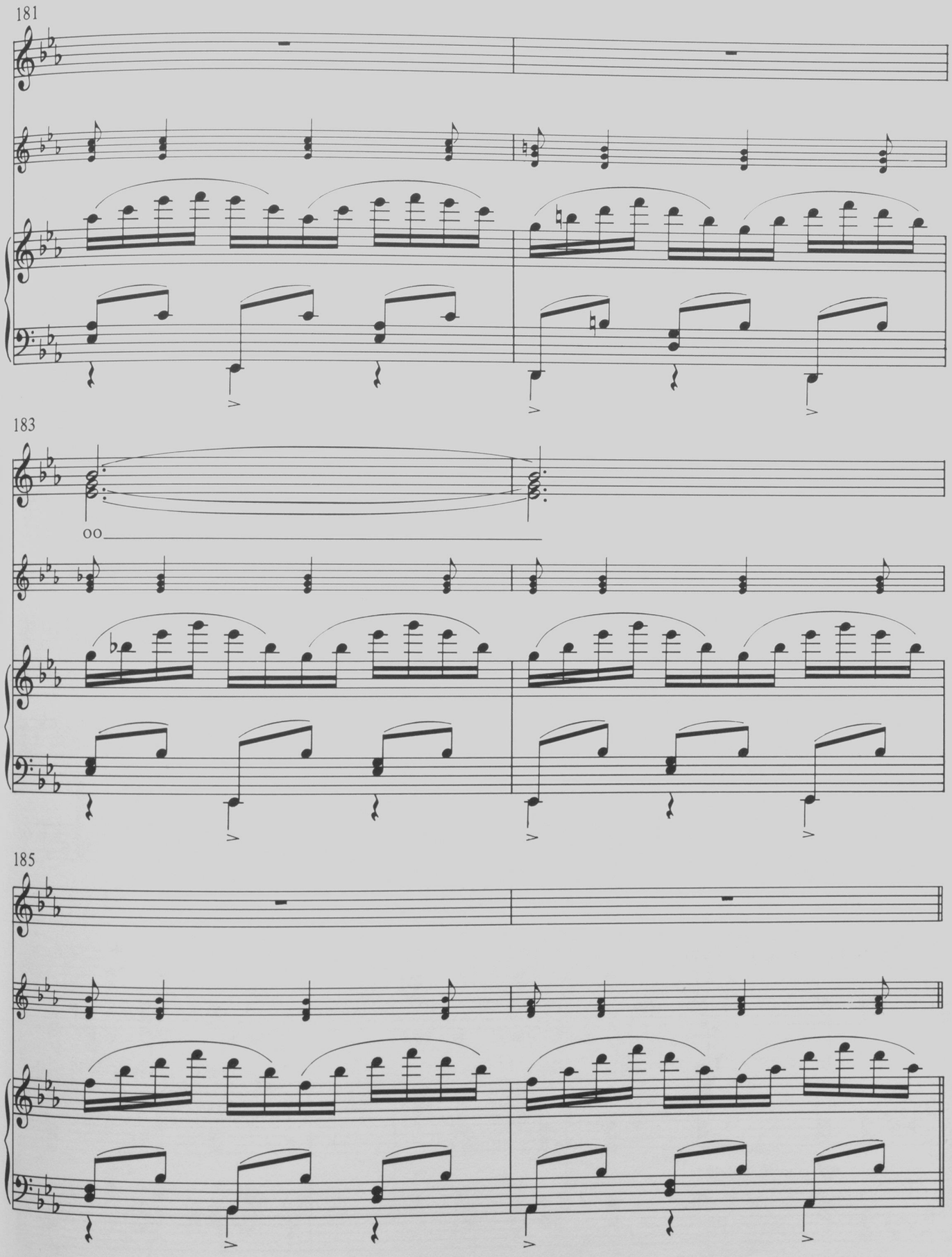

123
Love needs a
127
bath Love could use a shave
131
Love rolls out of the chair and

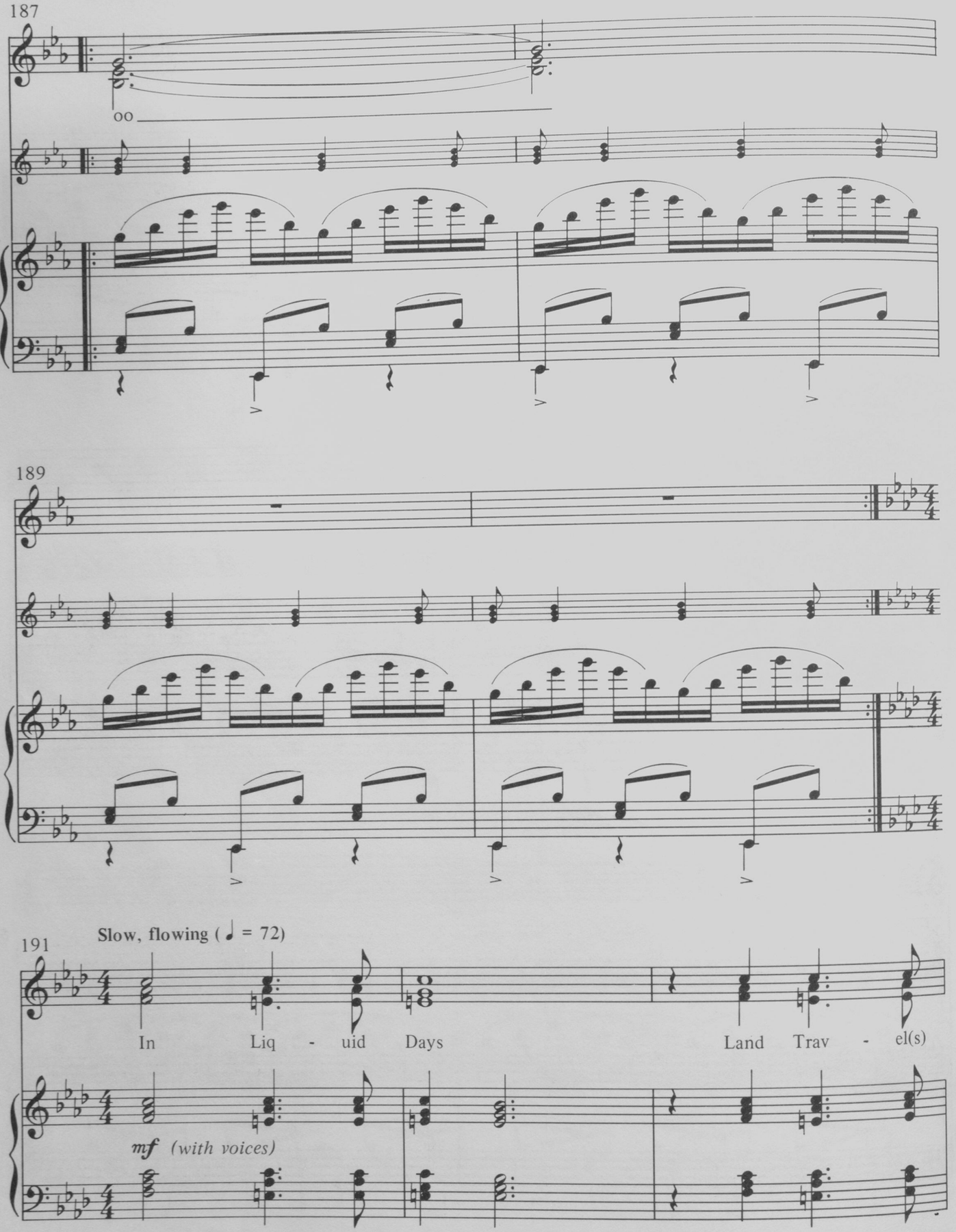

135
wig - gles
on
the
floor
Jumps
up
I'm
139
Laugh - ing
at
Love
I'm
143
Laugh-ing
at
Love

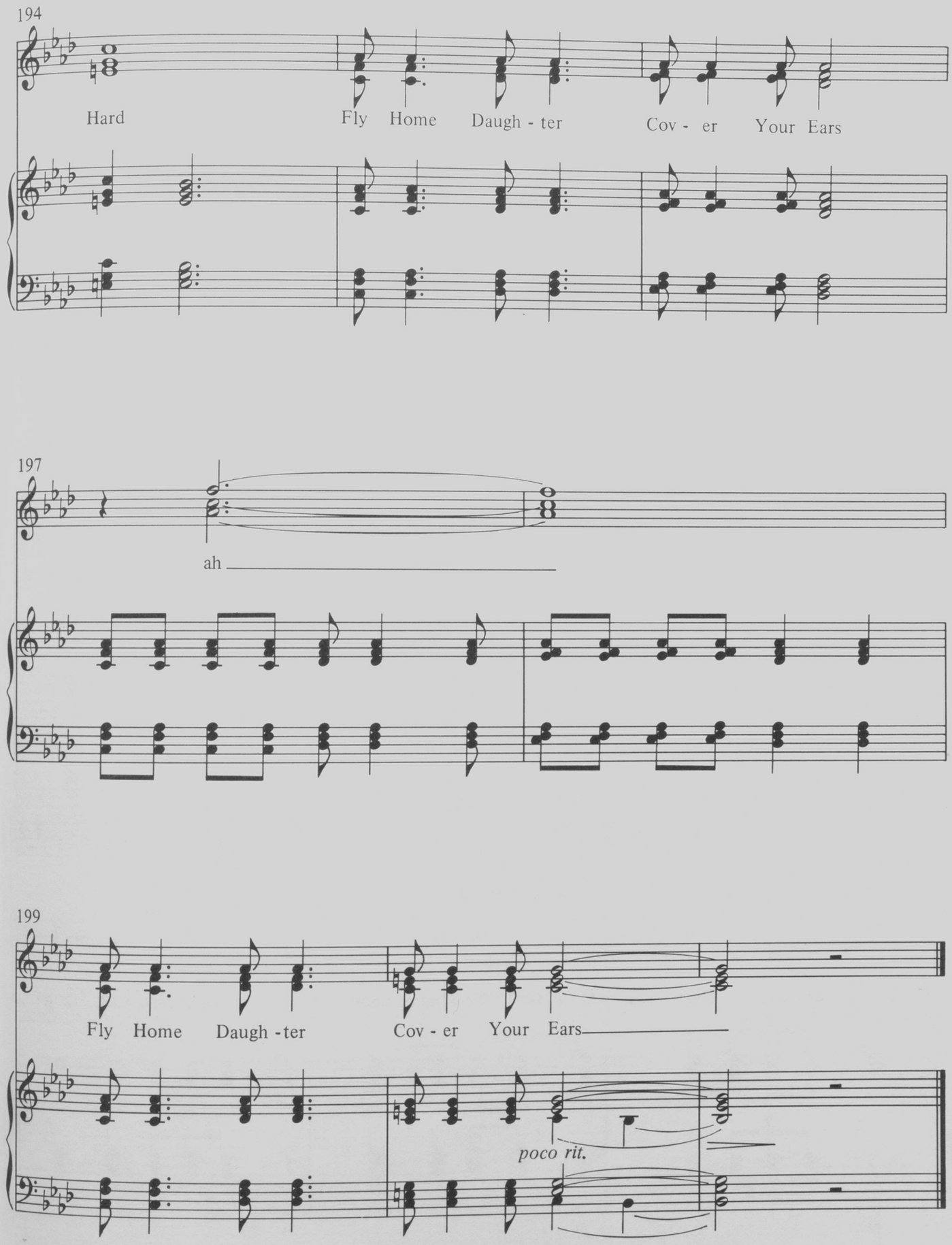

147
Drink me
drink me
mf
151
drink me
drink me
155
Drive . . . .
Breaths . . . .
Drive . . . .
159
Sleep . . . .
ossia:


161
163
Why do 5 4 2 You Ask?
167
Still is the Night
171
It is much Fur- ther—
Than We


175
Thought
ossia:
177
179
oo

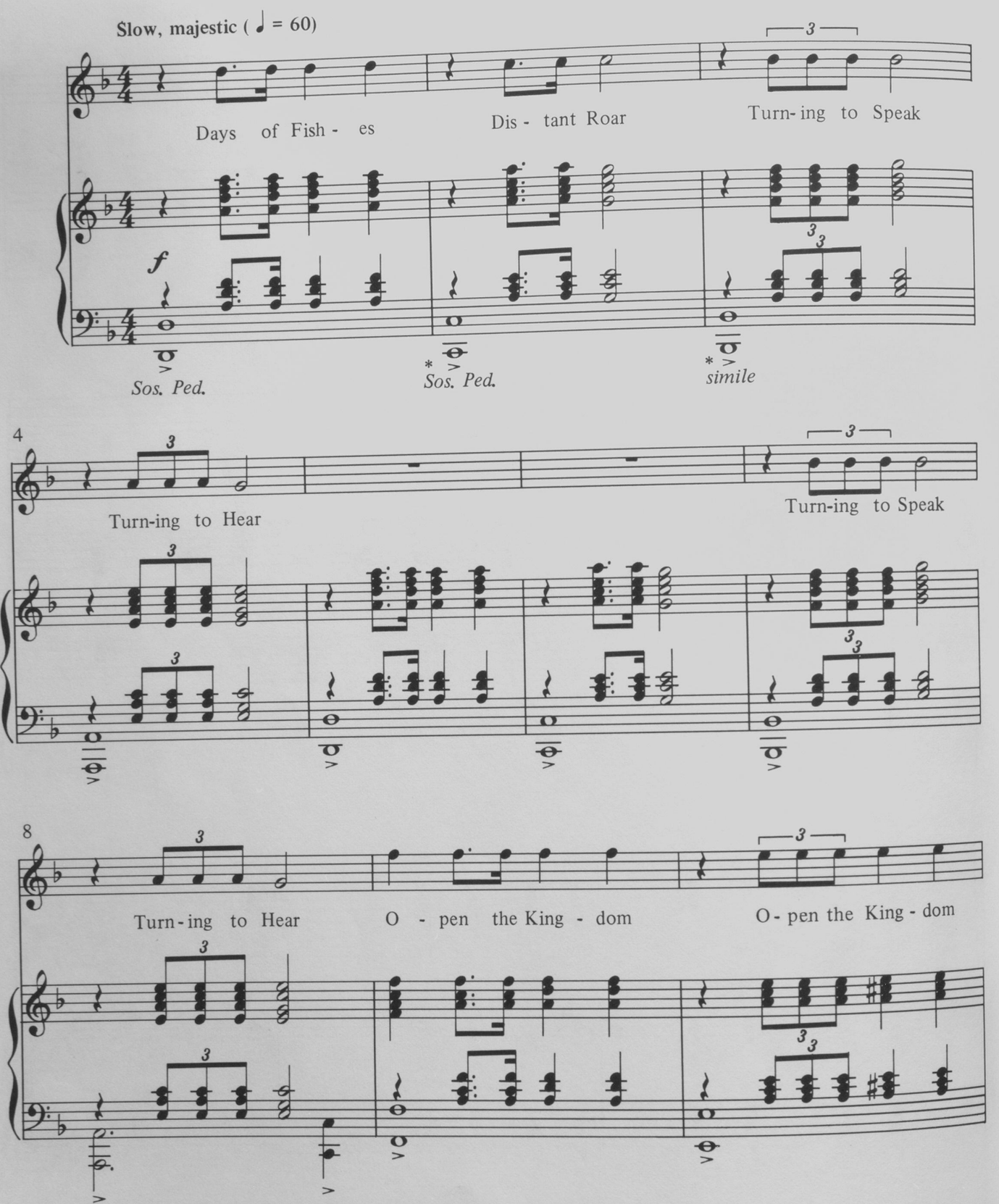

181
183
185


187
oo
189
191
Slow, flowing (♩ = 72)
In Liq - uid Days Land Trav - el(s)
mf (with voices)


194
Hard
Fly Home Daugh - ter
Cov - er Your Ears
197
ah
199
Fly Home Daugh - ter
Cov - er Your Ears
poco rit.

OPEN THE KINGDOM
(LIQUID DAYS, Part Two)

Music by Philip Glass ▼ Words by David Byrne



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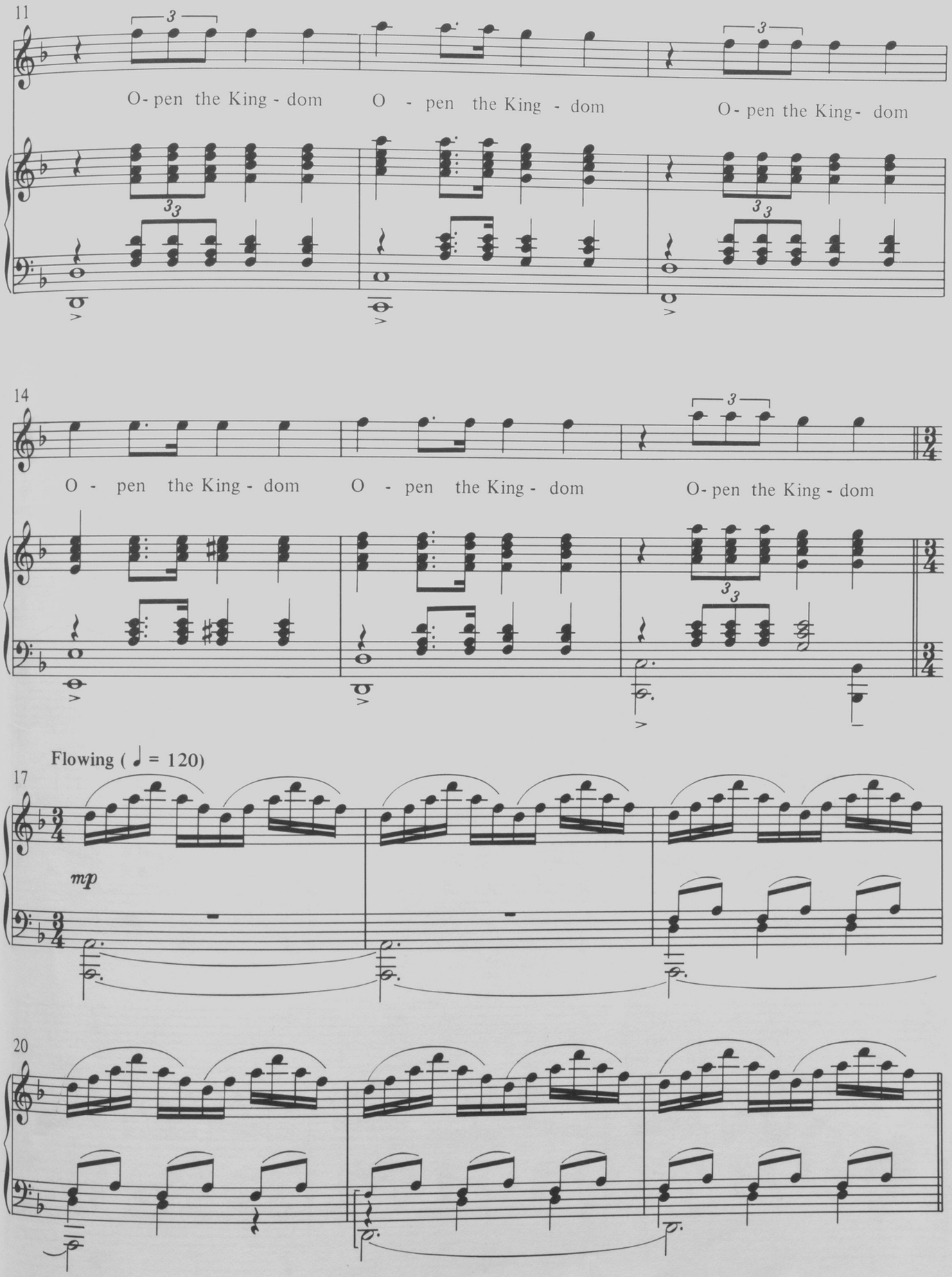
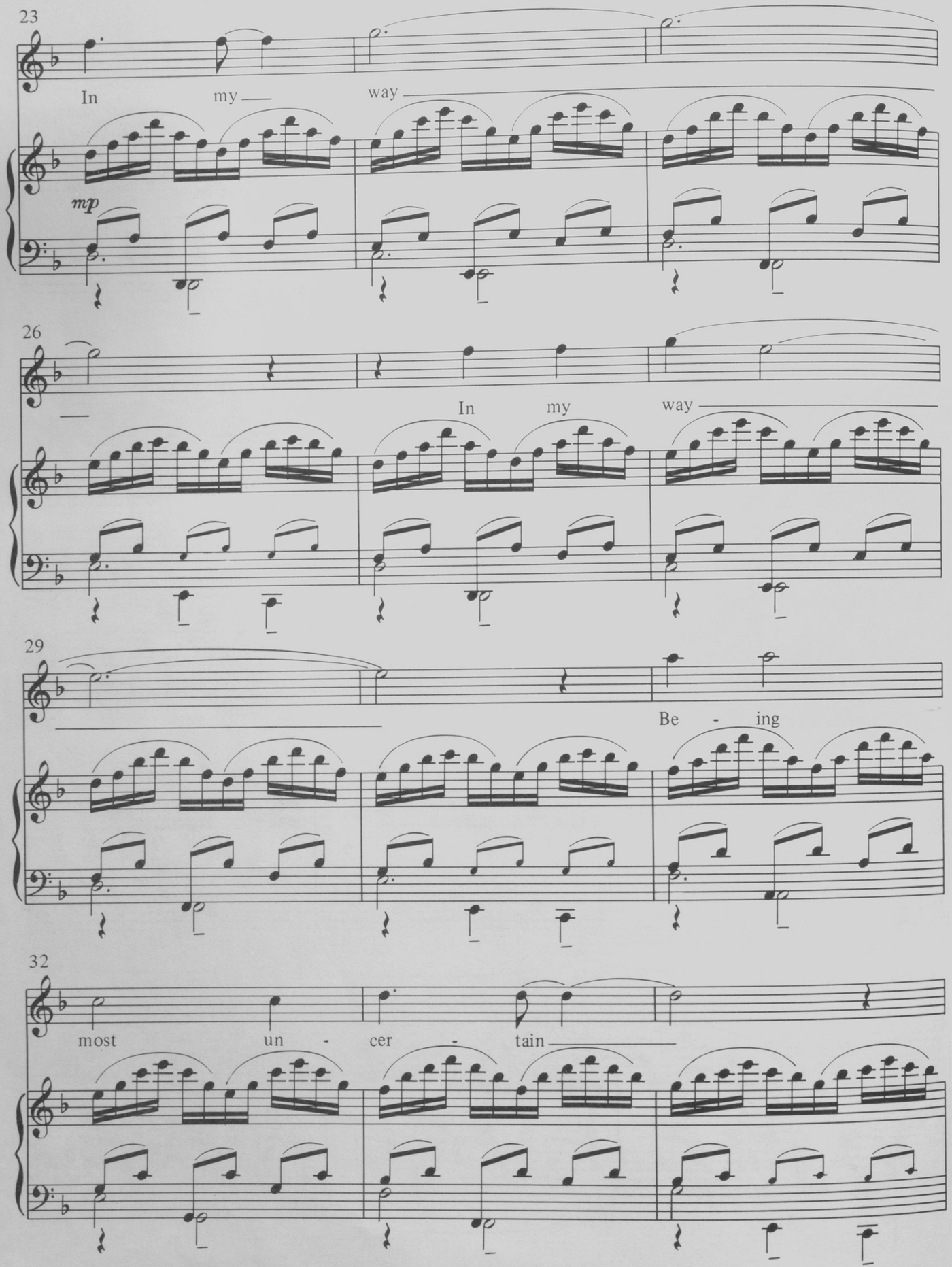
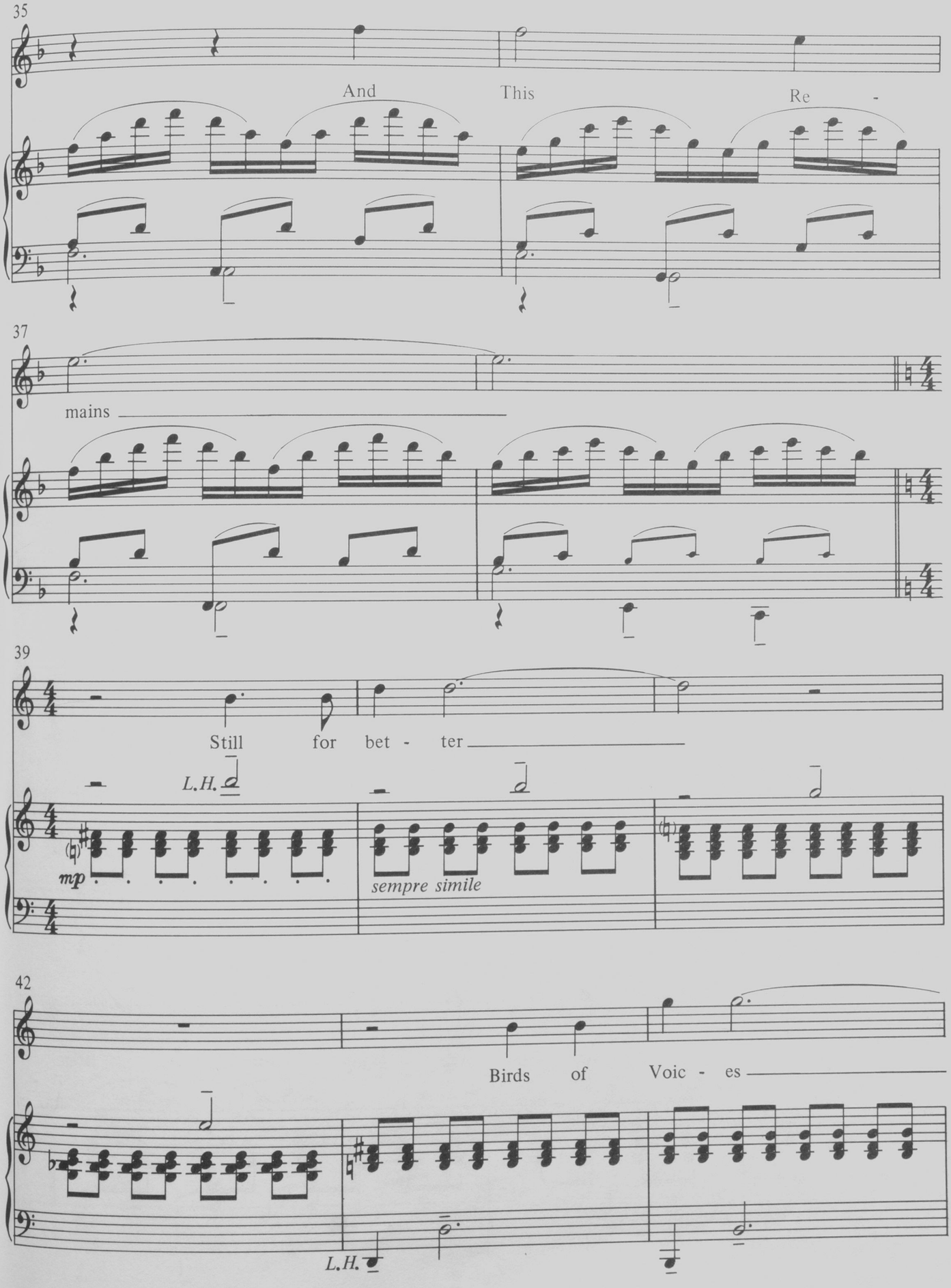
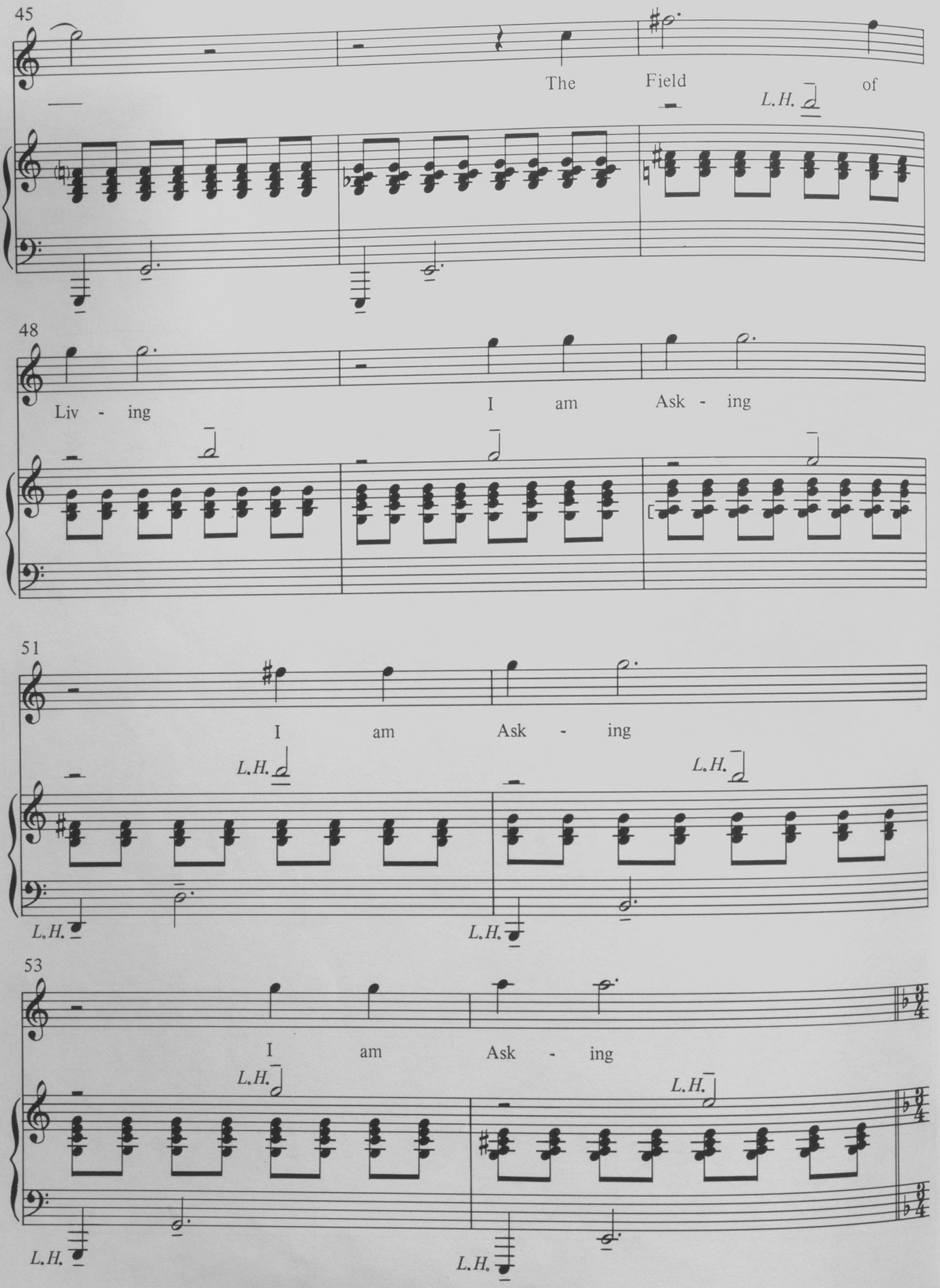
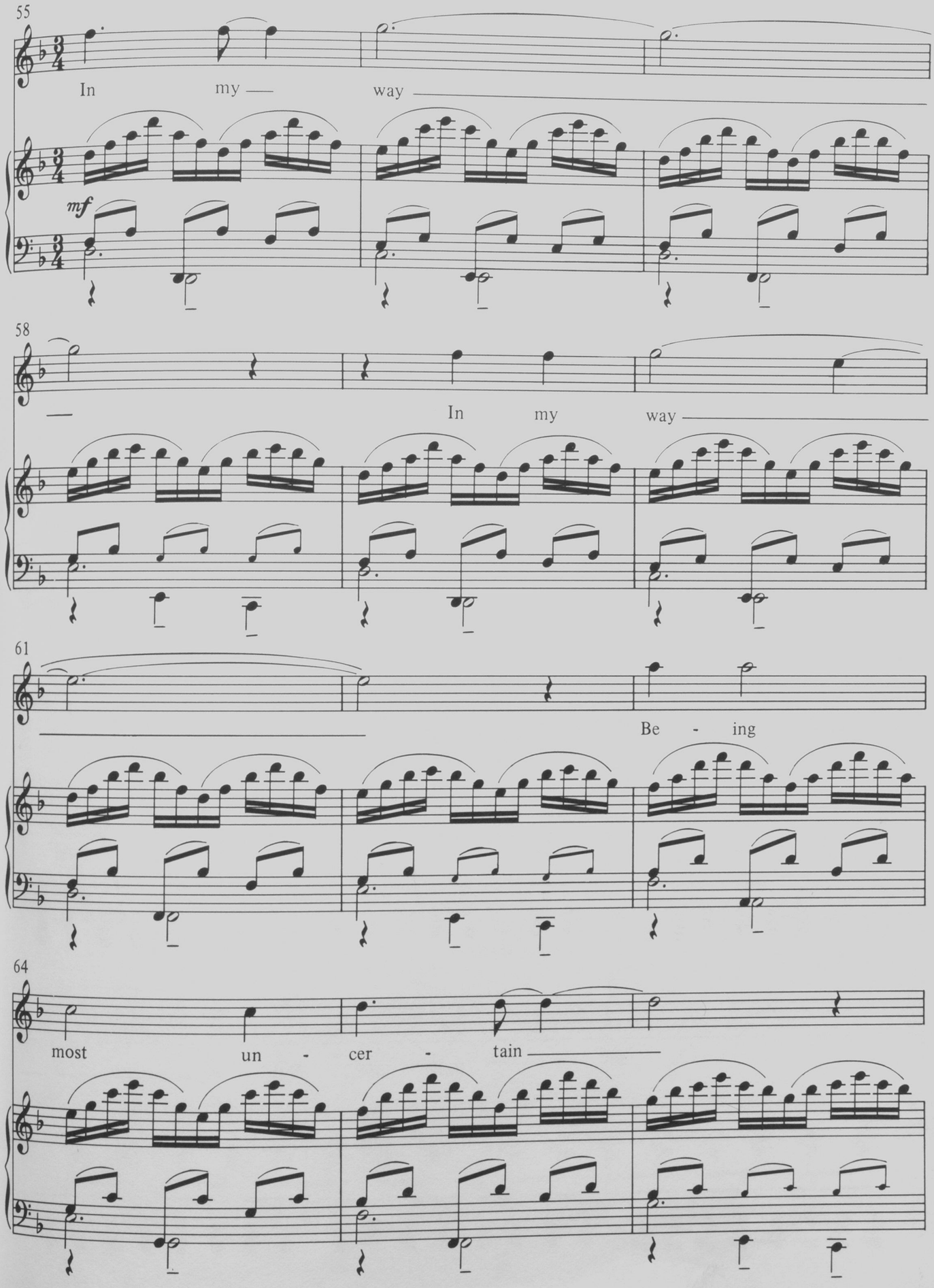
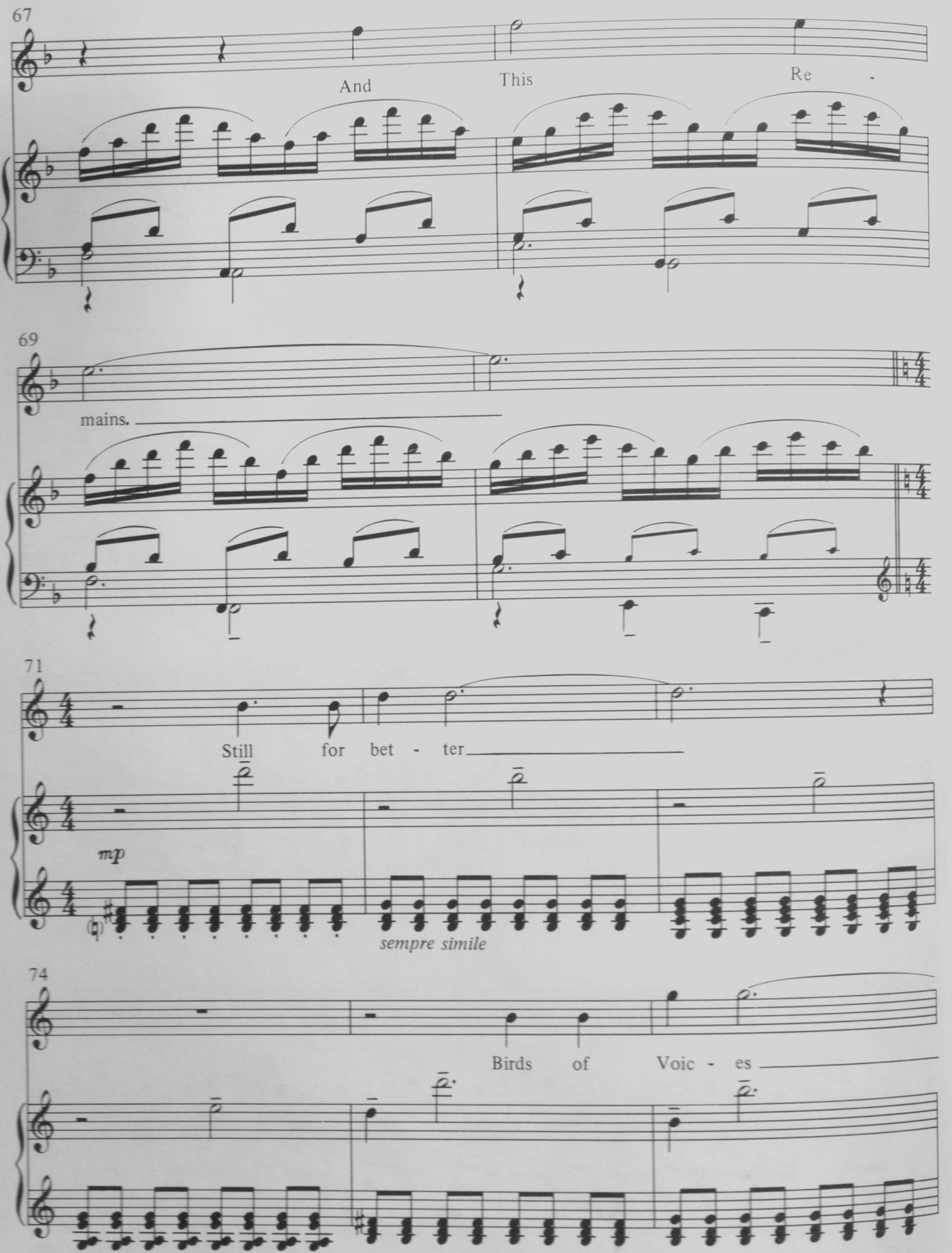

11
O- pen the King - dom
O - pen the King - dom
O- pen the King- dom
14
O - pen the King - dom
O - pen the King - dom
O- pen the King - dom
Flowing (♩ = 120)
17
mp
20

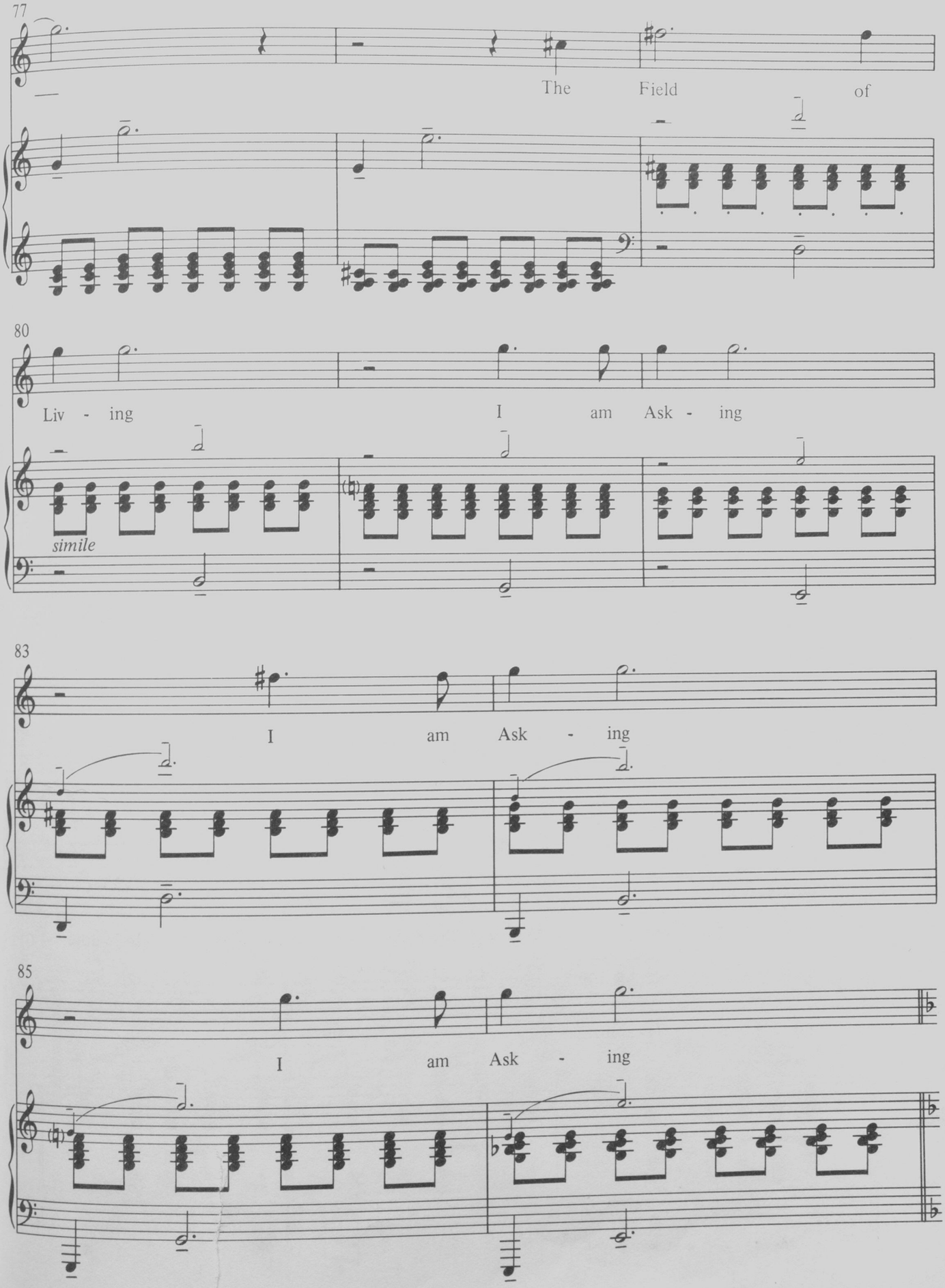

23
In my way
mp
26
In my way
29
Be - ing
32
most un - cer - tain

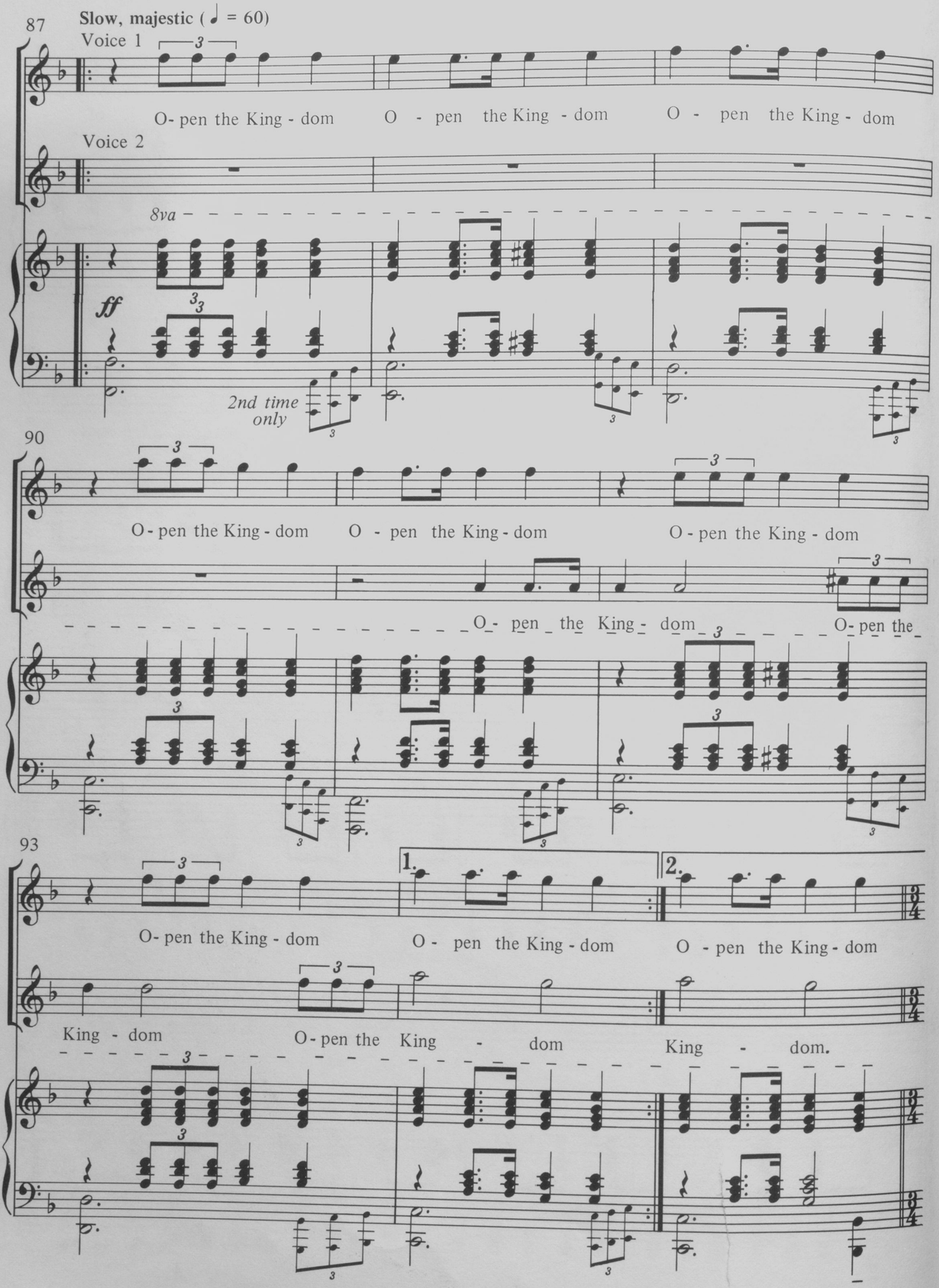

35
And
This
Re -
37
mains
39
Still for bet - ter
L.H.
mp
sempre simile
42
Birds of Voic - es
L.H.

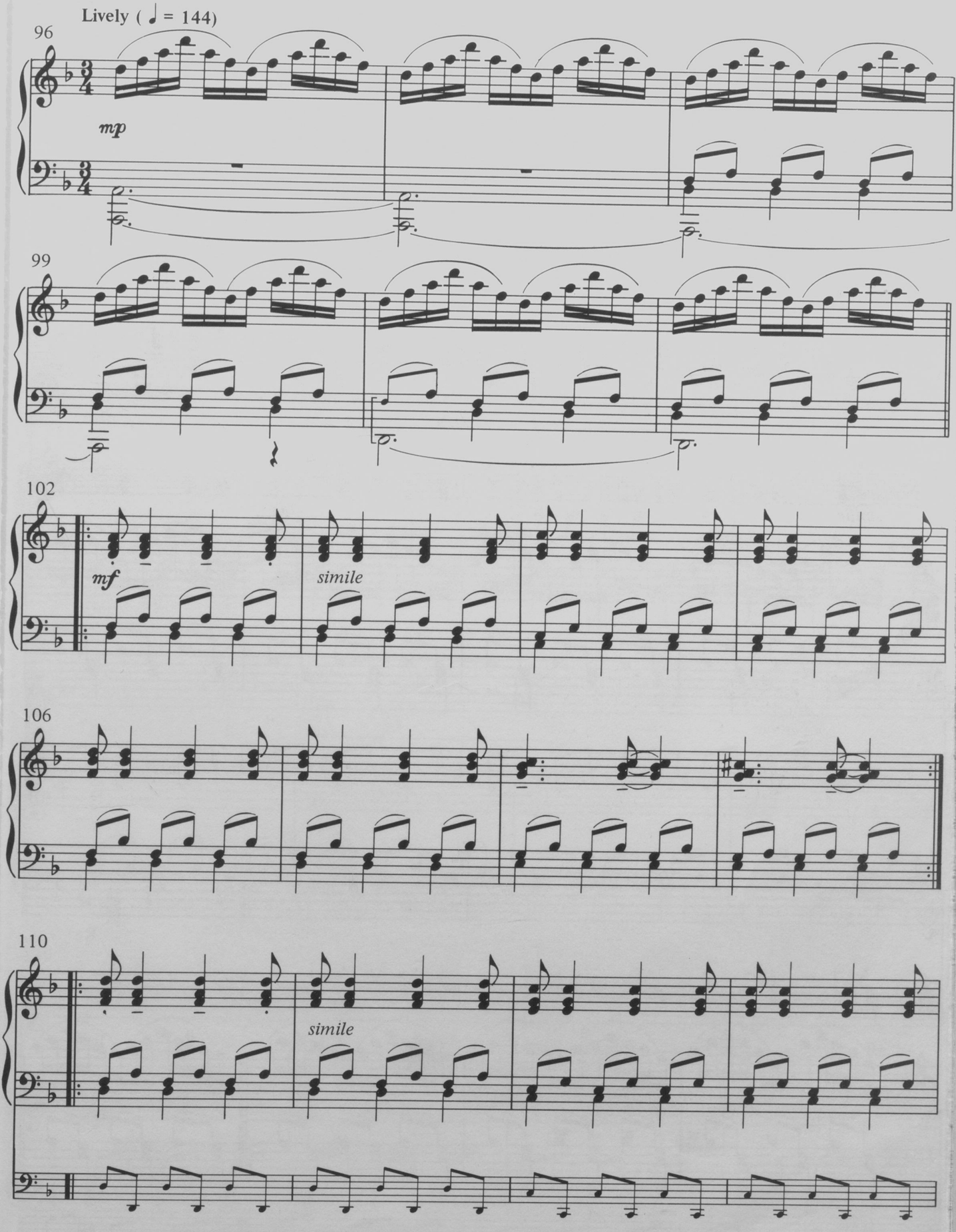

45
The Field of
L.H.
48
Liv - ing
I am Ask - ing
51
I am Ask - ing
L.H.
L.H.
L.H.
L.H.
53
I am Ask - ing
L.H.
L.H.
L.H.
L.H.

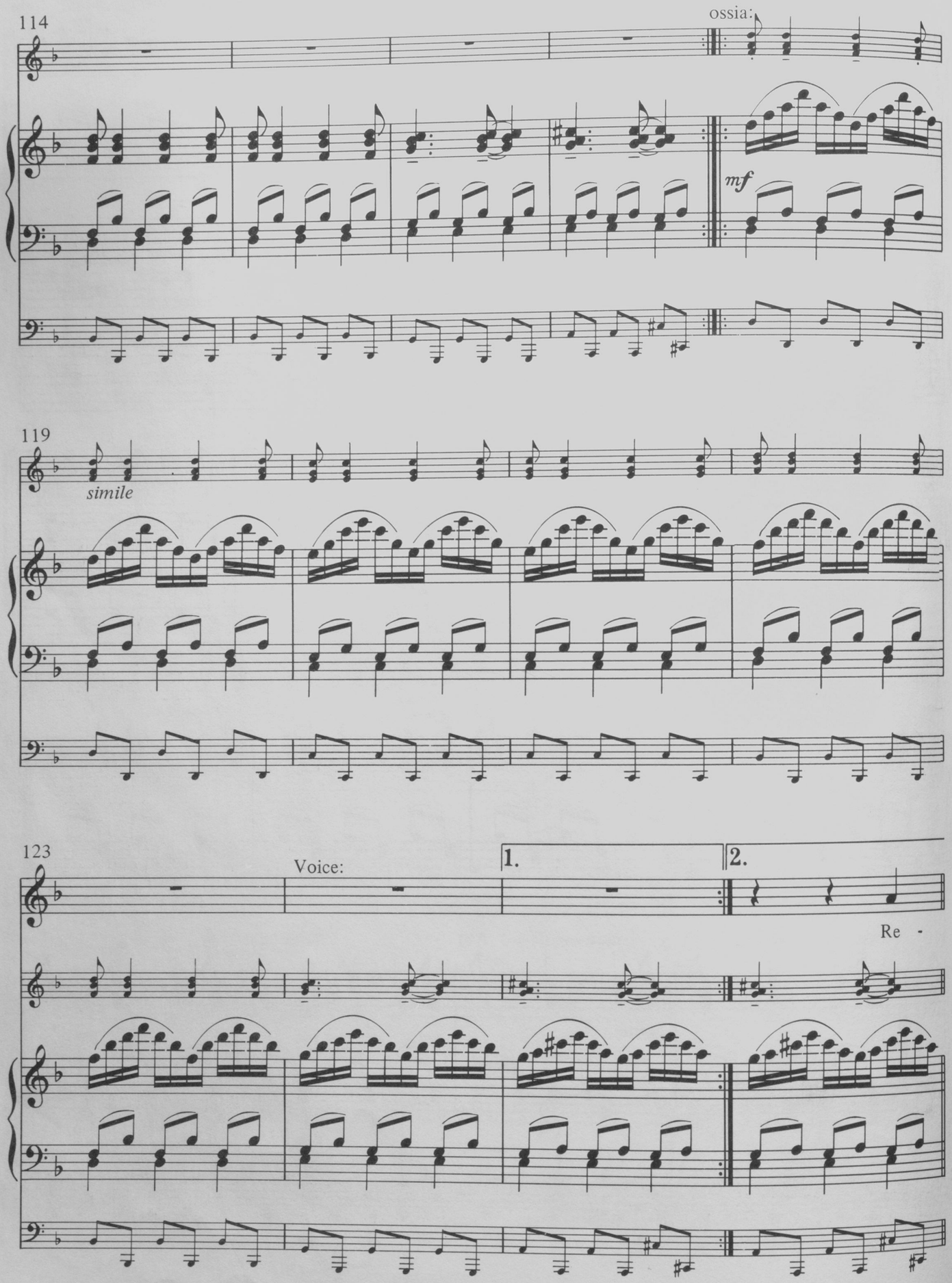

55
In my way
mf
58
In my way
61
Be - ing
64
most un - cer - tain

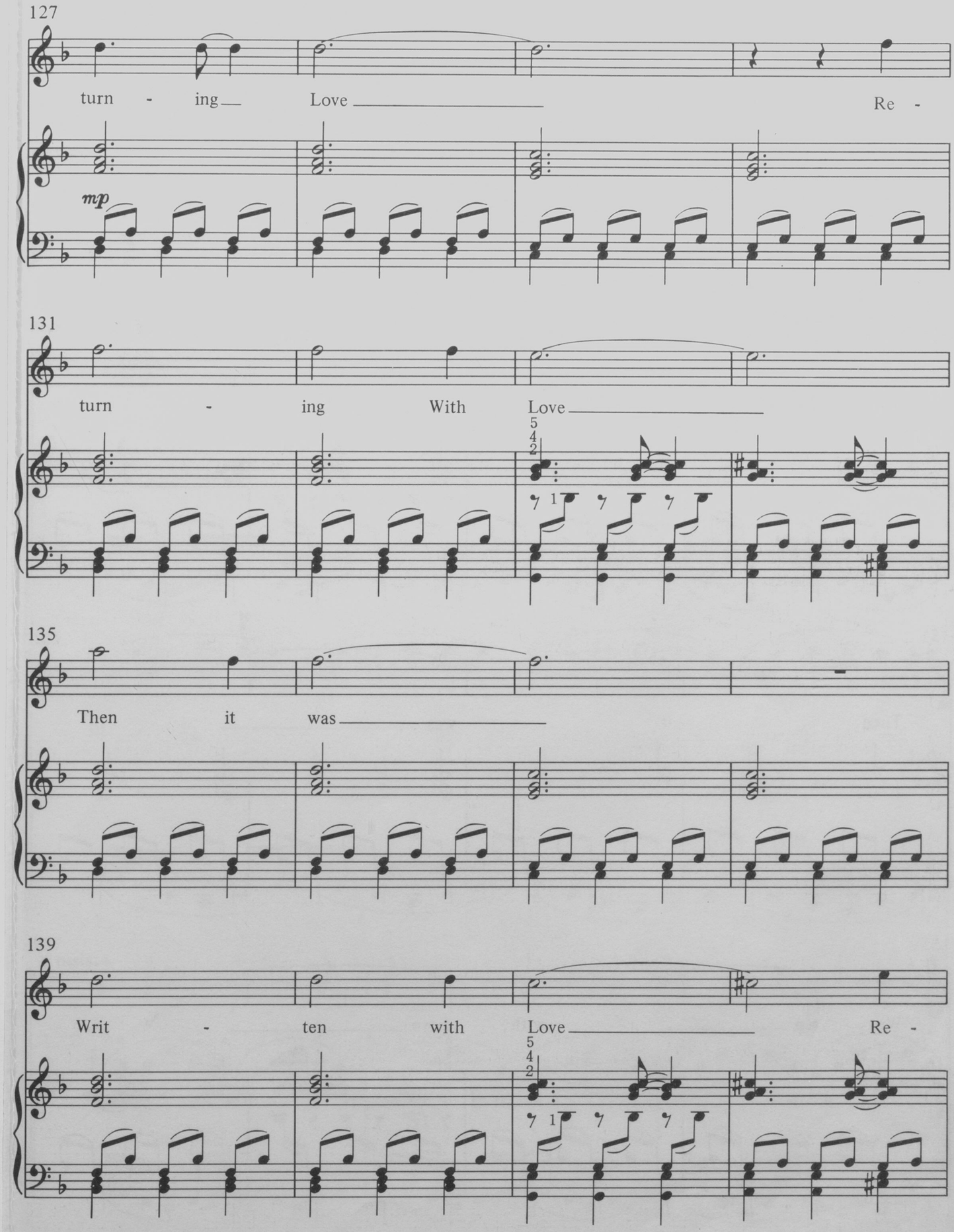

67
And
This
Re -
69
mains.
71
Still
for
bet - ter
mp
sempre simile
74
Birds
of
Voic - es

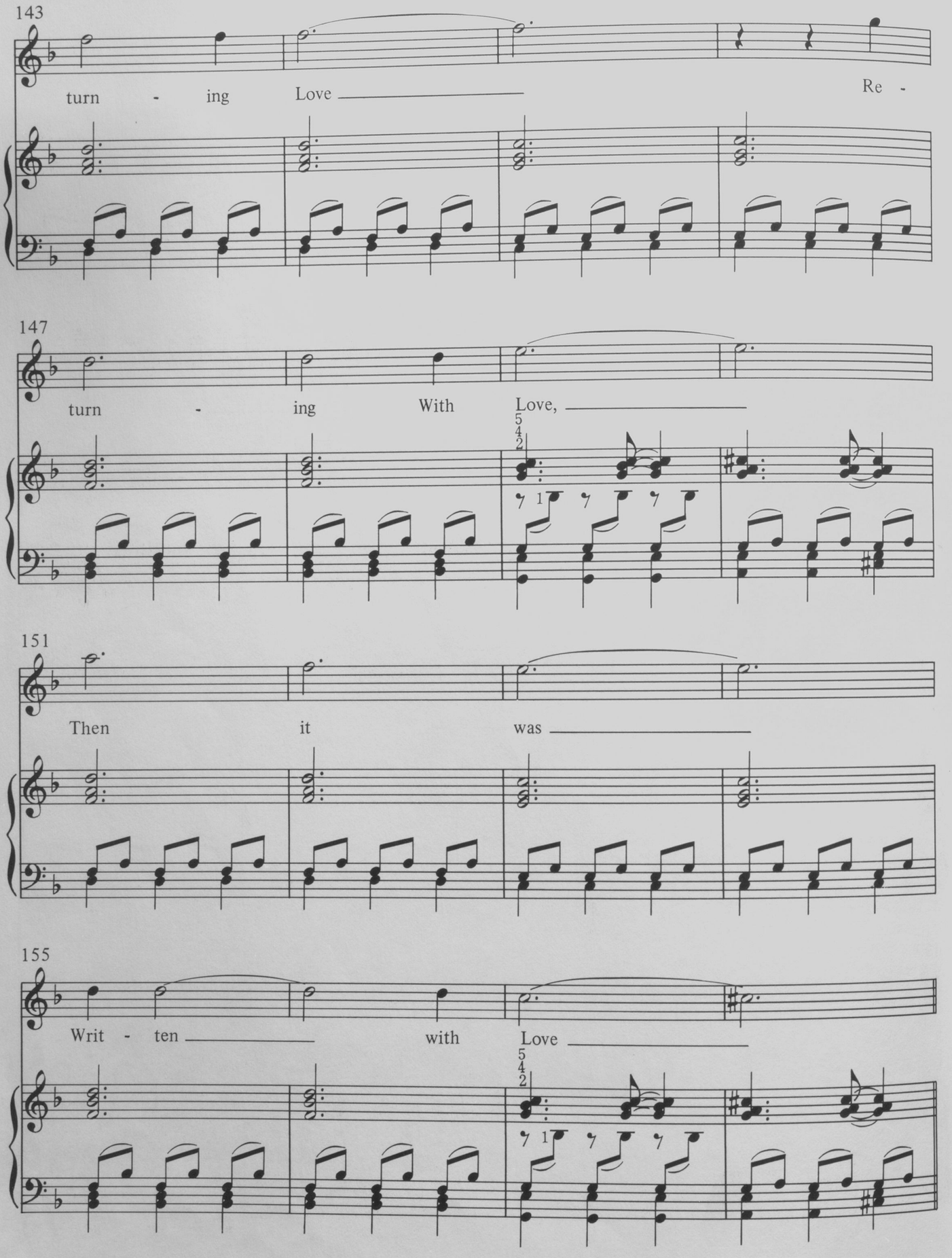

77
The Field of
80
Liv - ing I am Ask - ing
simile
83
I am Ask - ing
85
I am Ask - ing

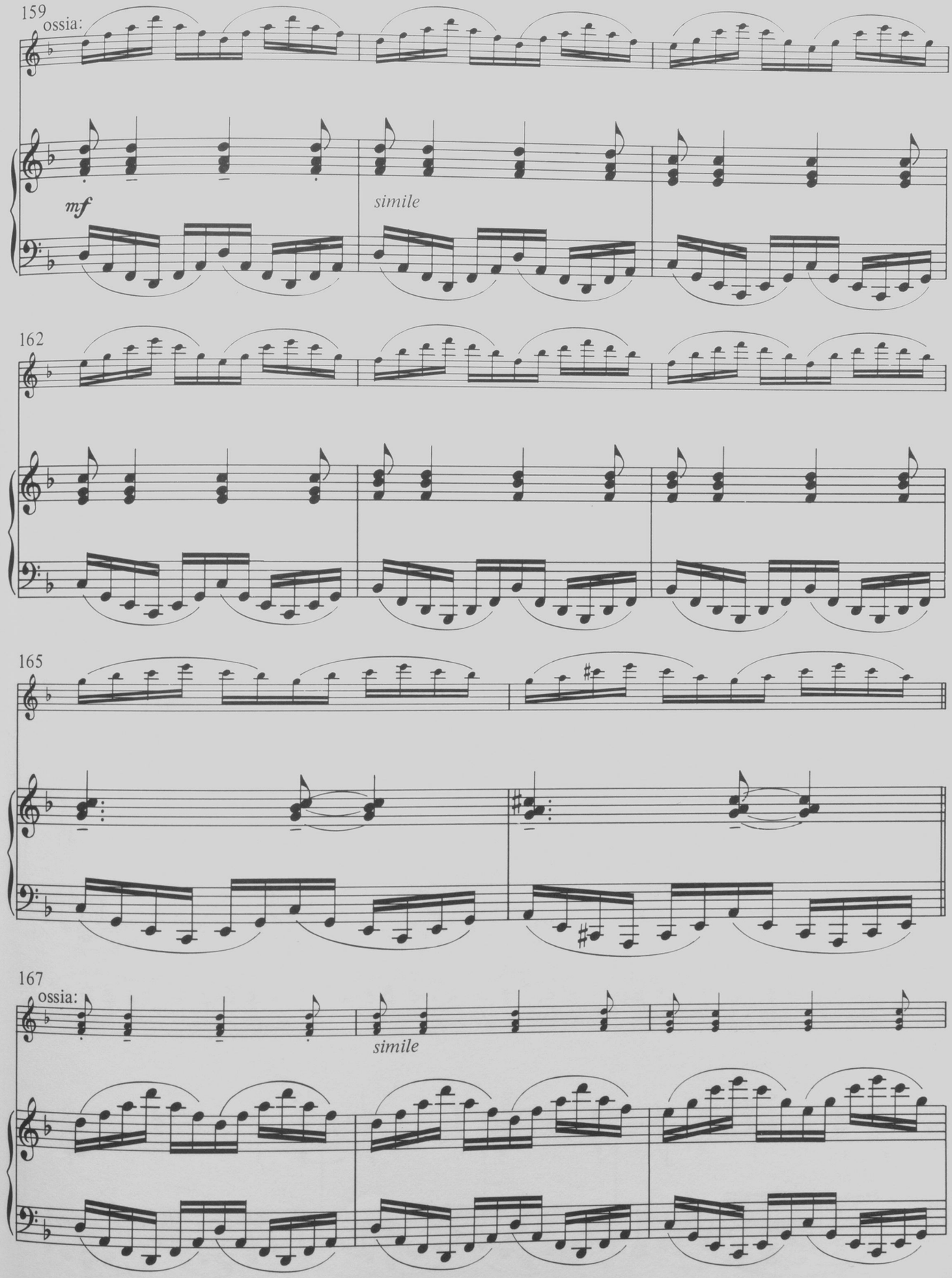

87
Slow, majestic (♩ = 60)
Voice 1
O- pen the King - dom O - pen the King - dom O - pen the King - dom
Voice 2
8va
ff
2nd time only
90
O - pen the King - dom O - pen the King - dom O - pen the King - dom
O - pen the King - dom O - pen the
93
1.
2.
O - pen the King - dom O - pen the King - dom O - pen the King - dom
King - dom O - pen the King - dom King - dom.

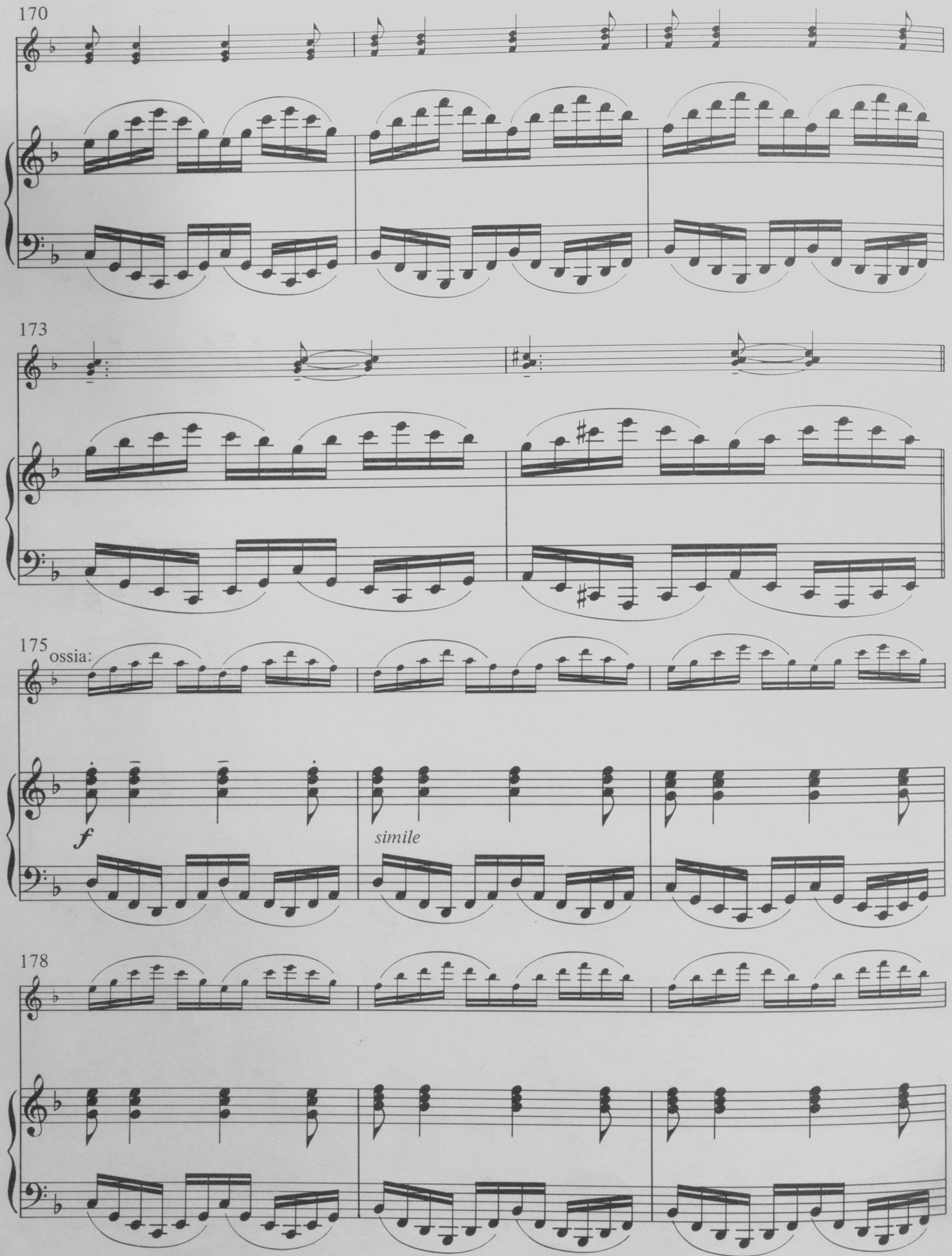

Lively (♩ = 144)
96
mp
99
102
mf
simile
106
110
simile

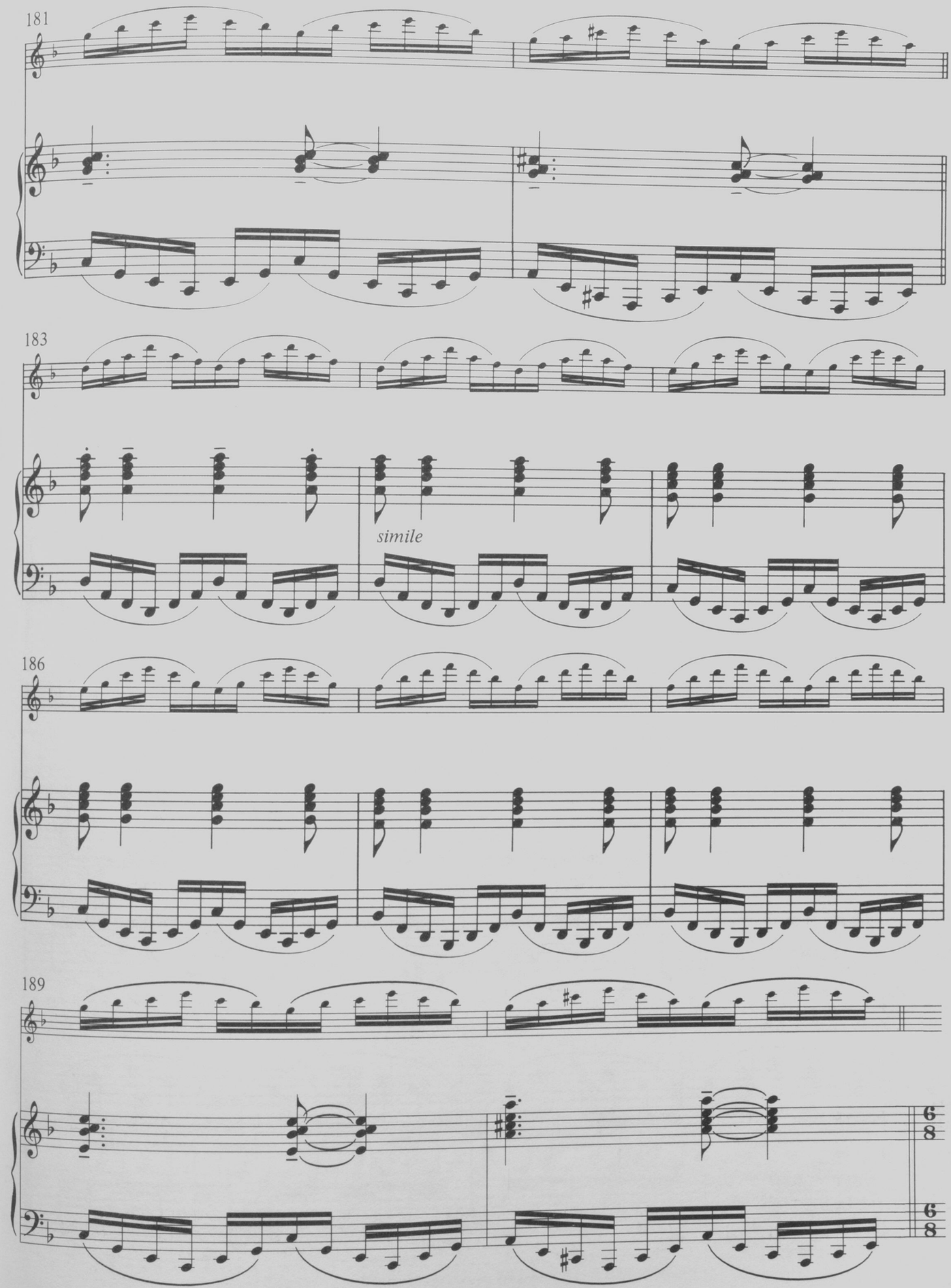

114
ossia:
mf
119
simile
123
Voice:
1.
2.
Re -

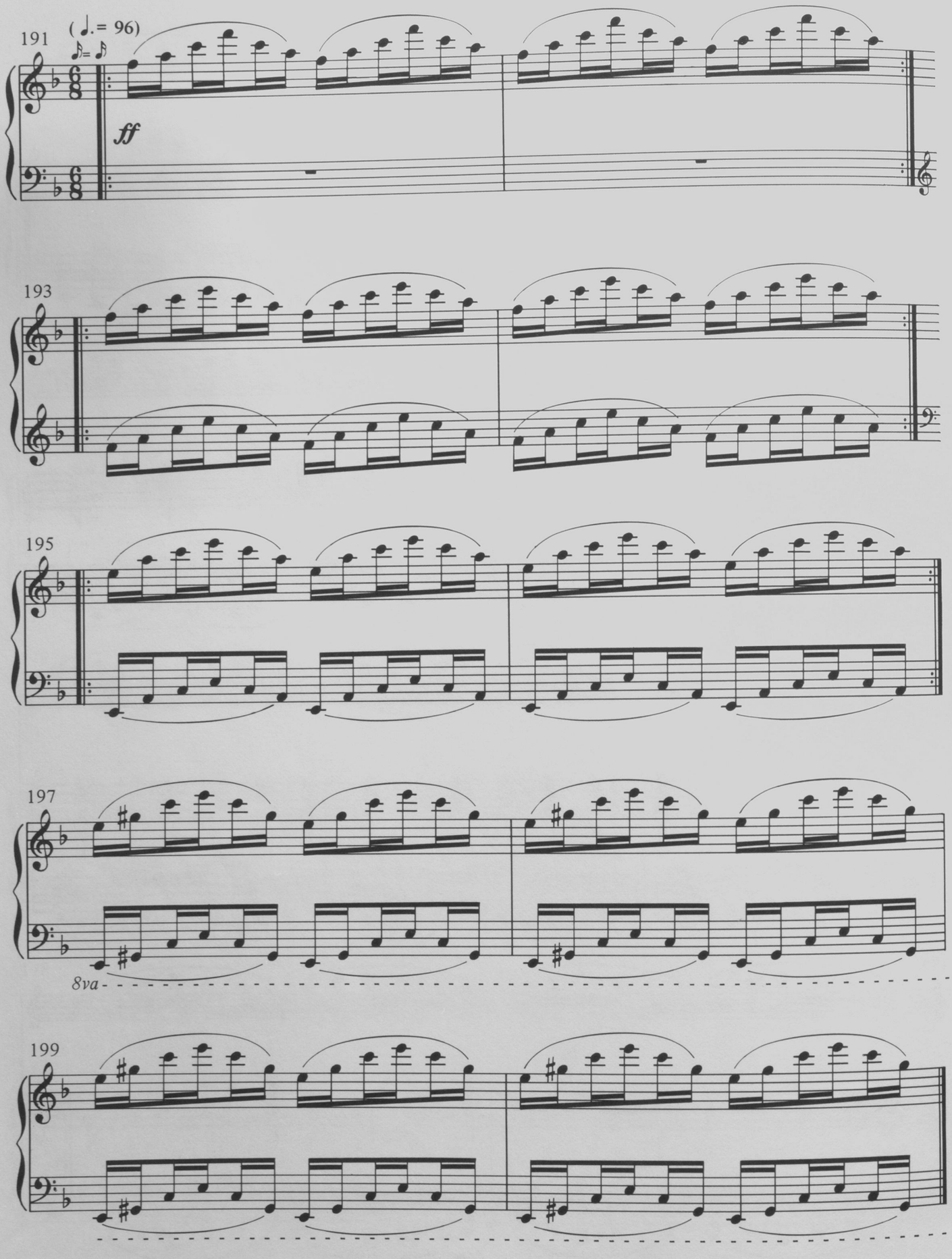

127
turn - ing Love Re -
mp
131
turn - ing With Love
5
4
2
1
135
Then it was
139
Writ - ten with Love Re -
5
4
2
1


143
turn - ing Love Re -
147
turn - ing With Love,
151
Then it was
155
Writ - ten with Love


159
ossia:
mf
simile
162
165
167
ossia:
simile

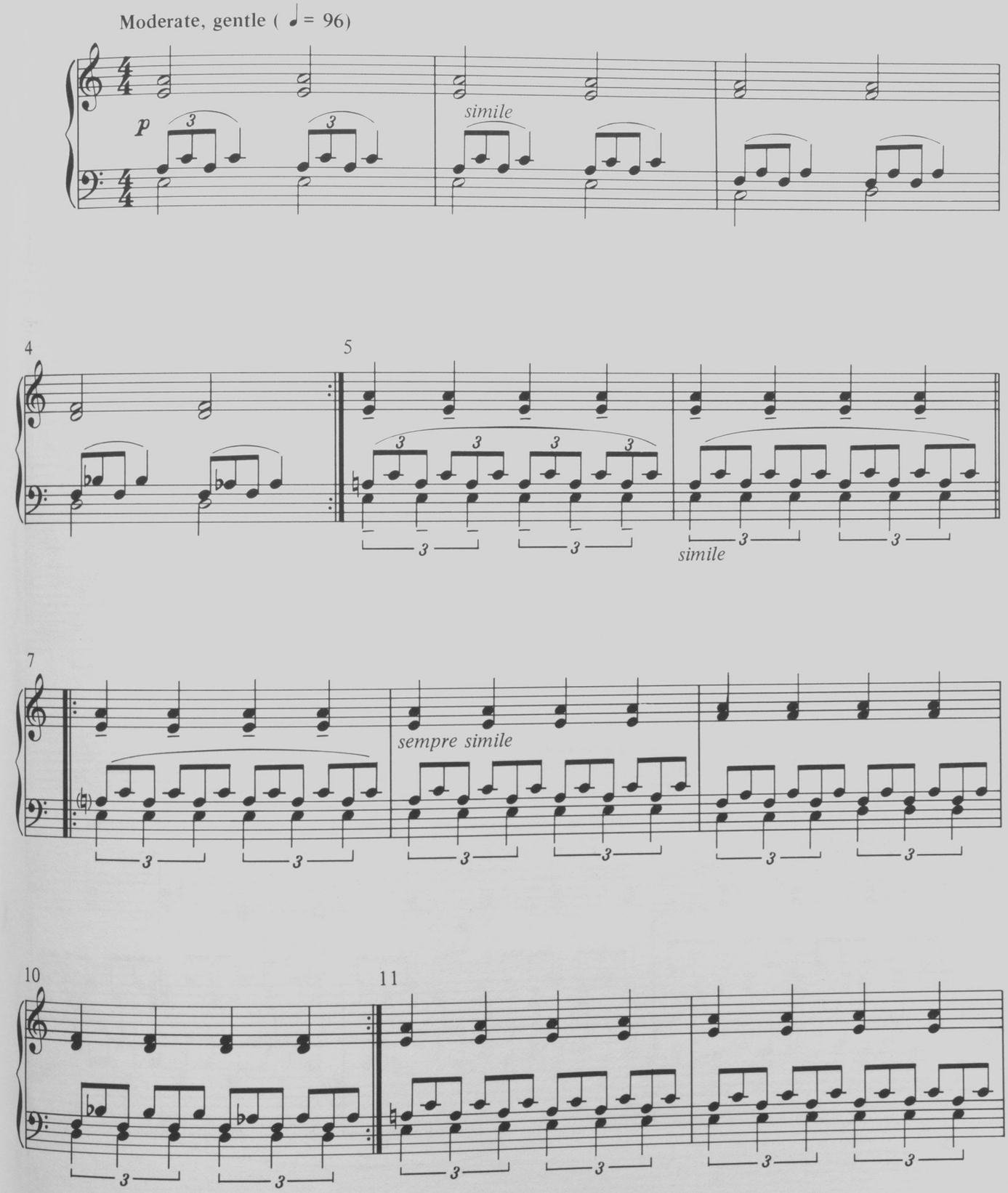

170
173
175
ossia:
f
simile
178


181
183
simile
186
189
6
8
6
8


191
(♩.= 96)
♪= ♪
ff
193
195
197
8va
199

FORGETTING

Music by Philip Glass ▼ Words by Laurie Anderson



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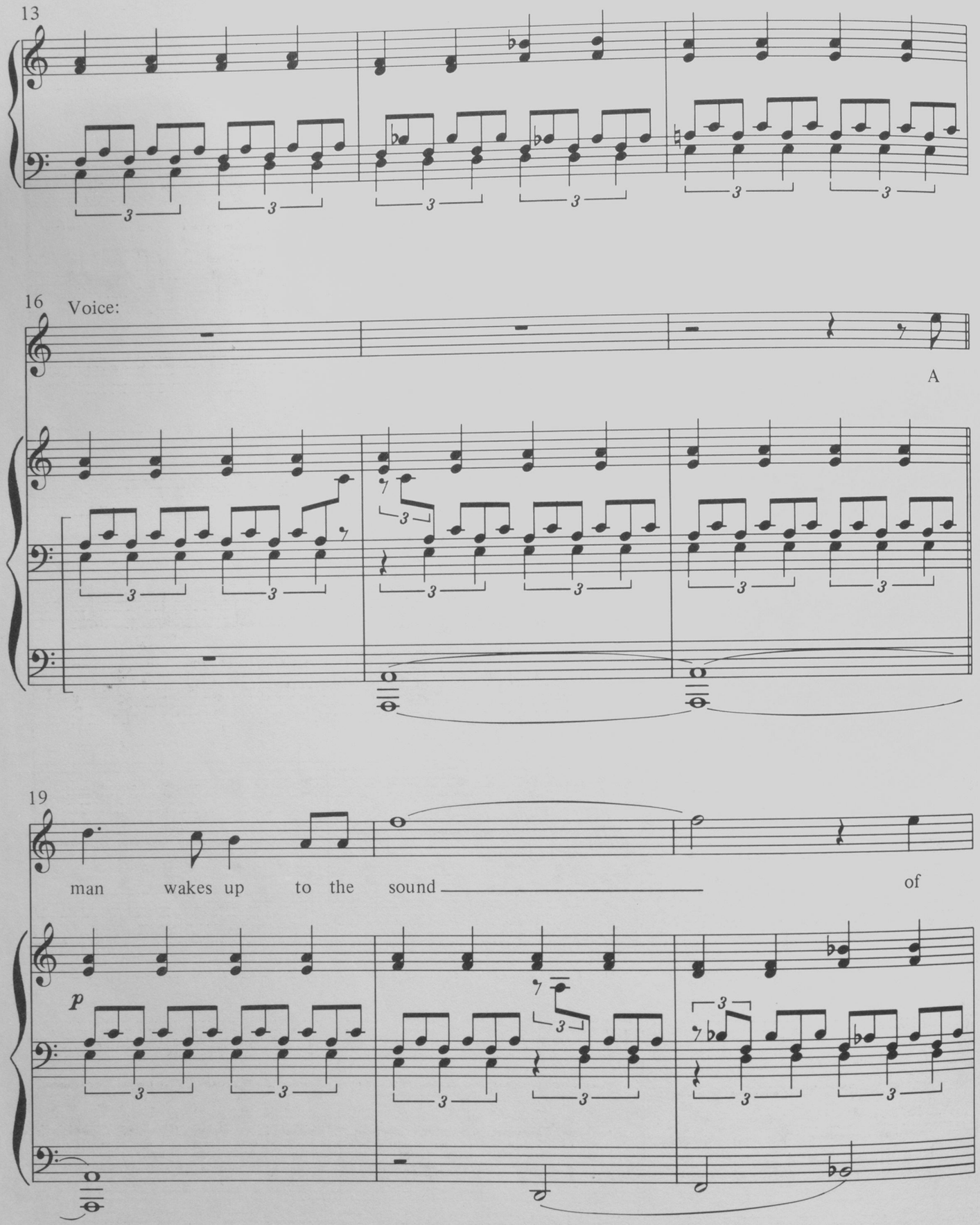
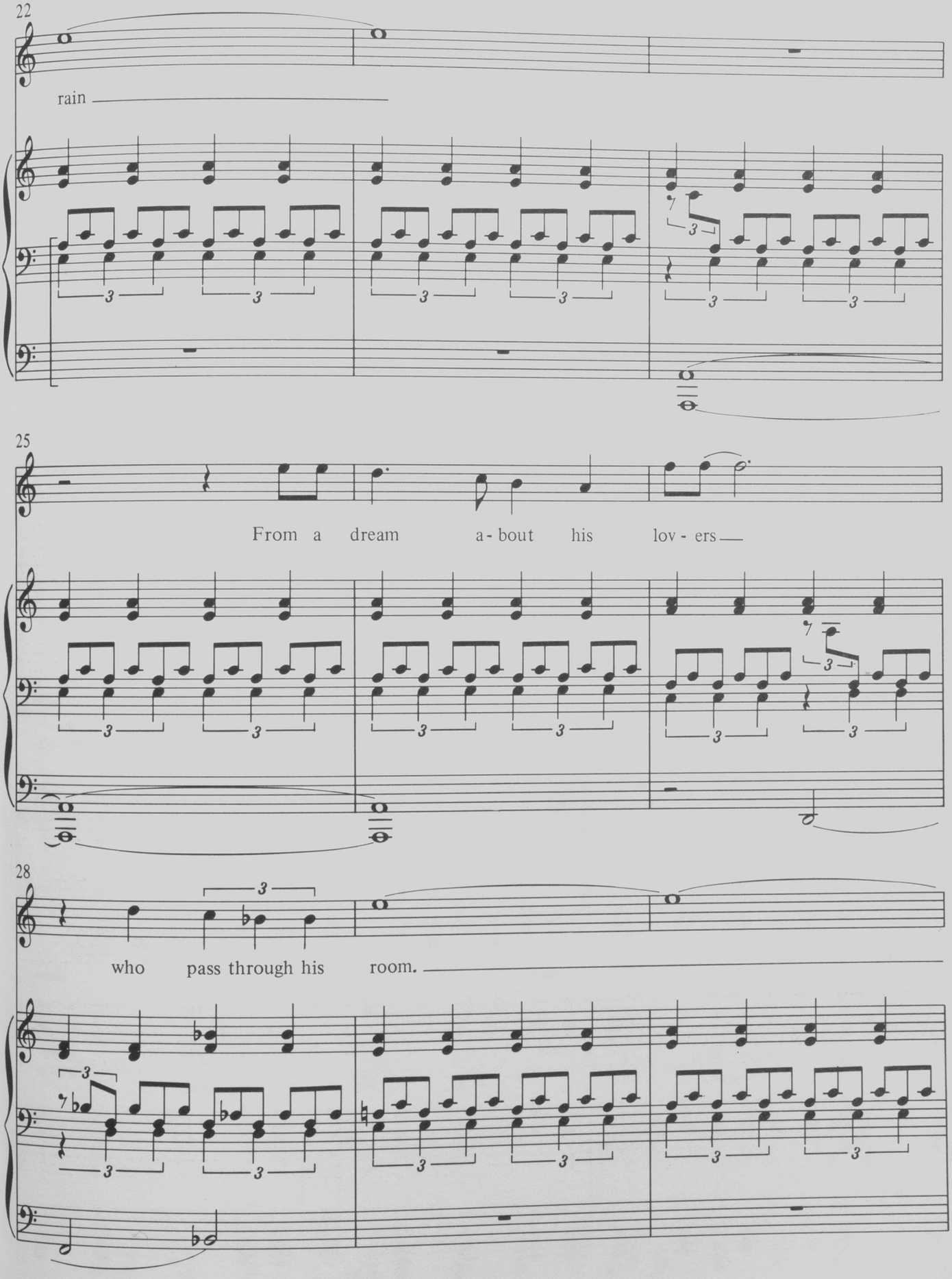
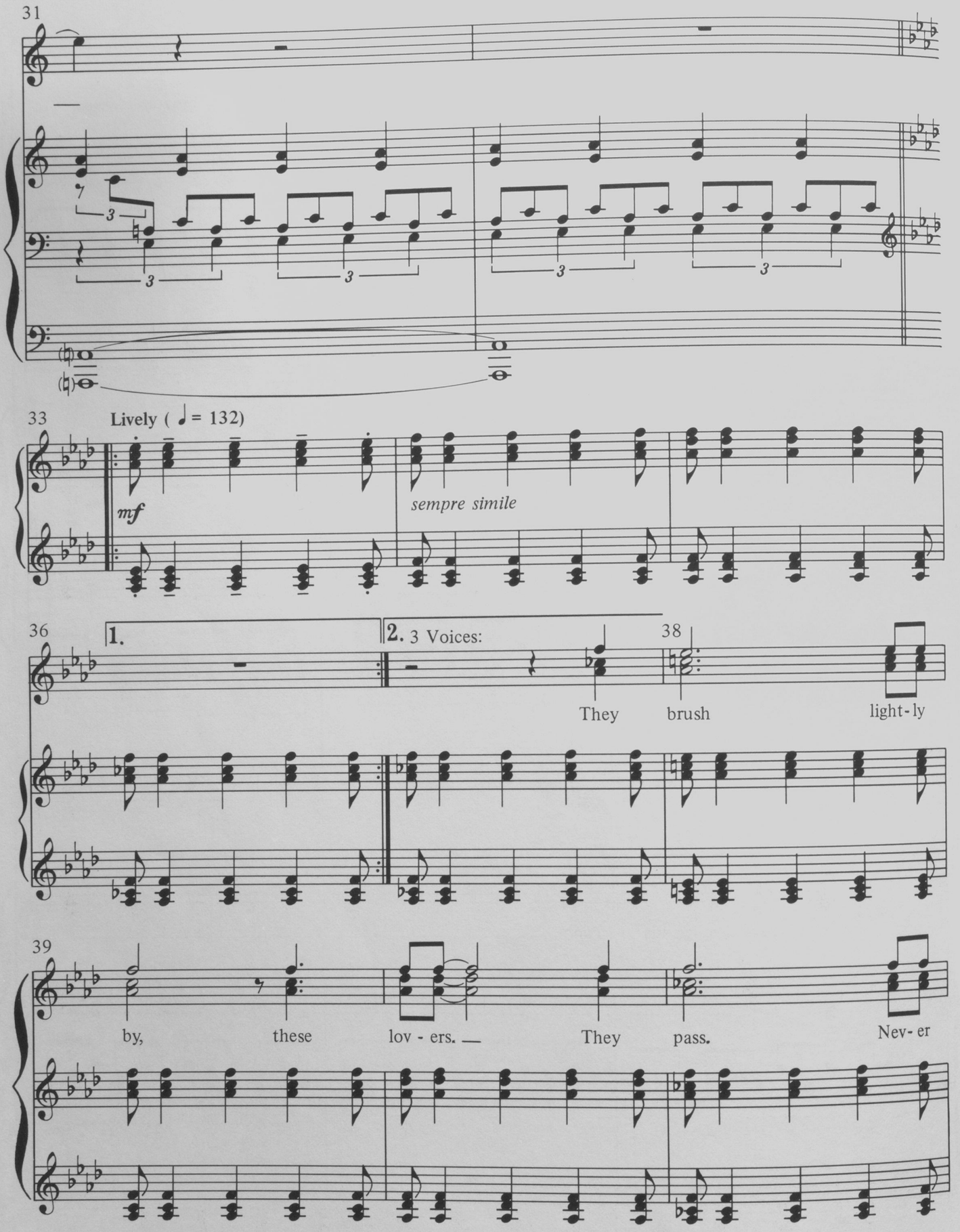
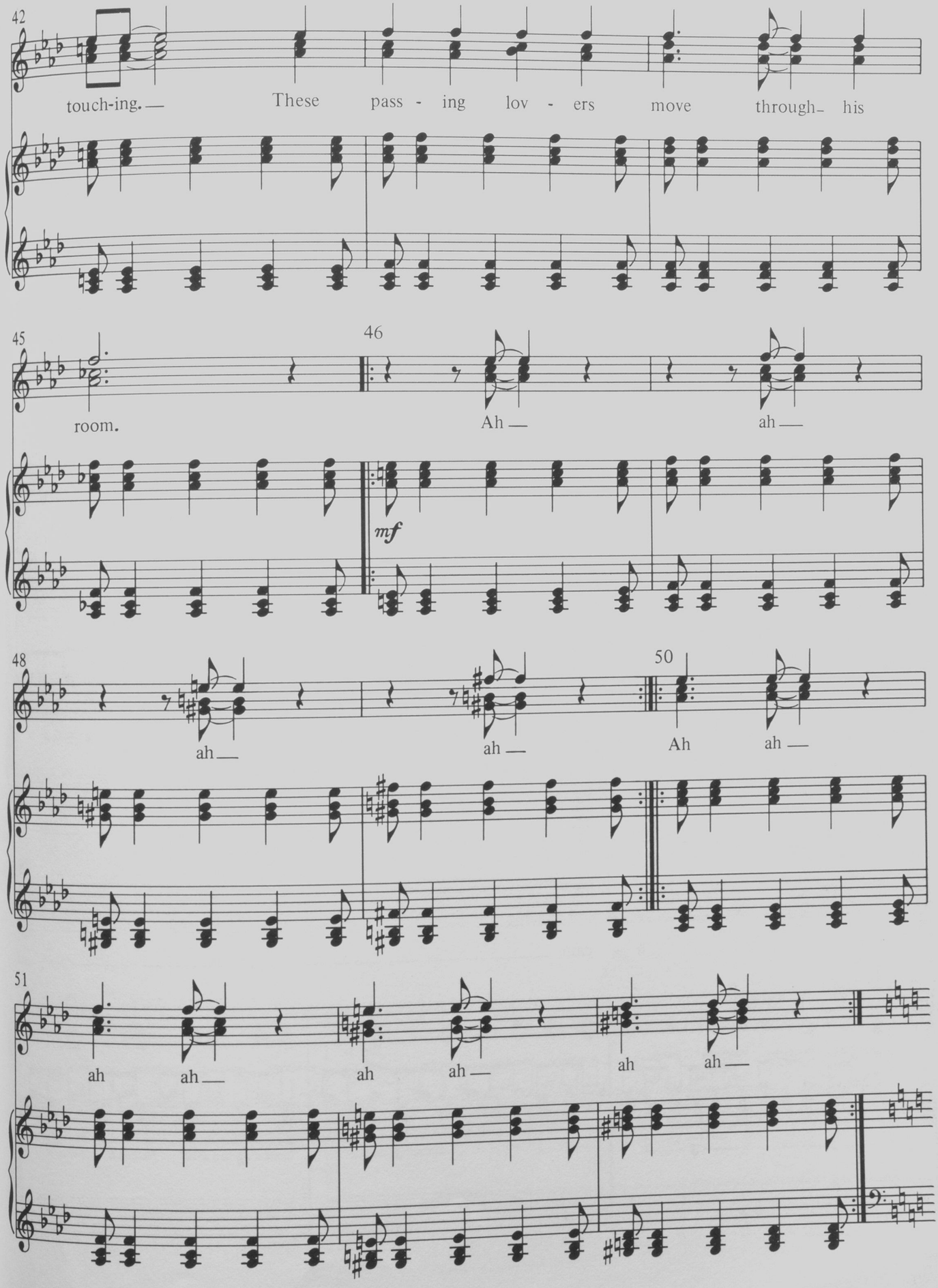
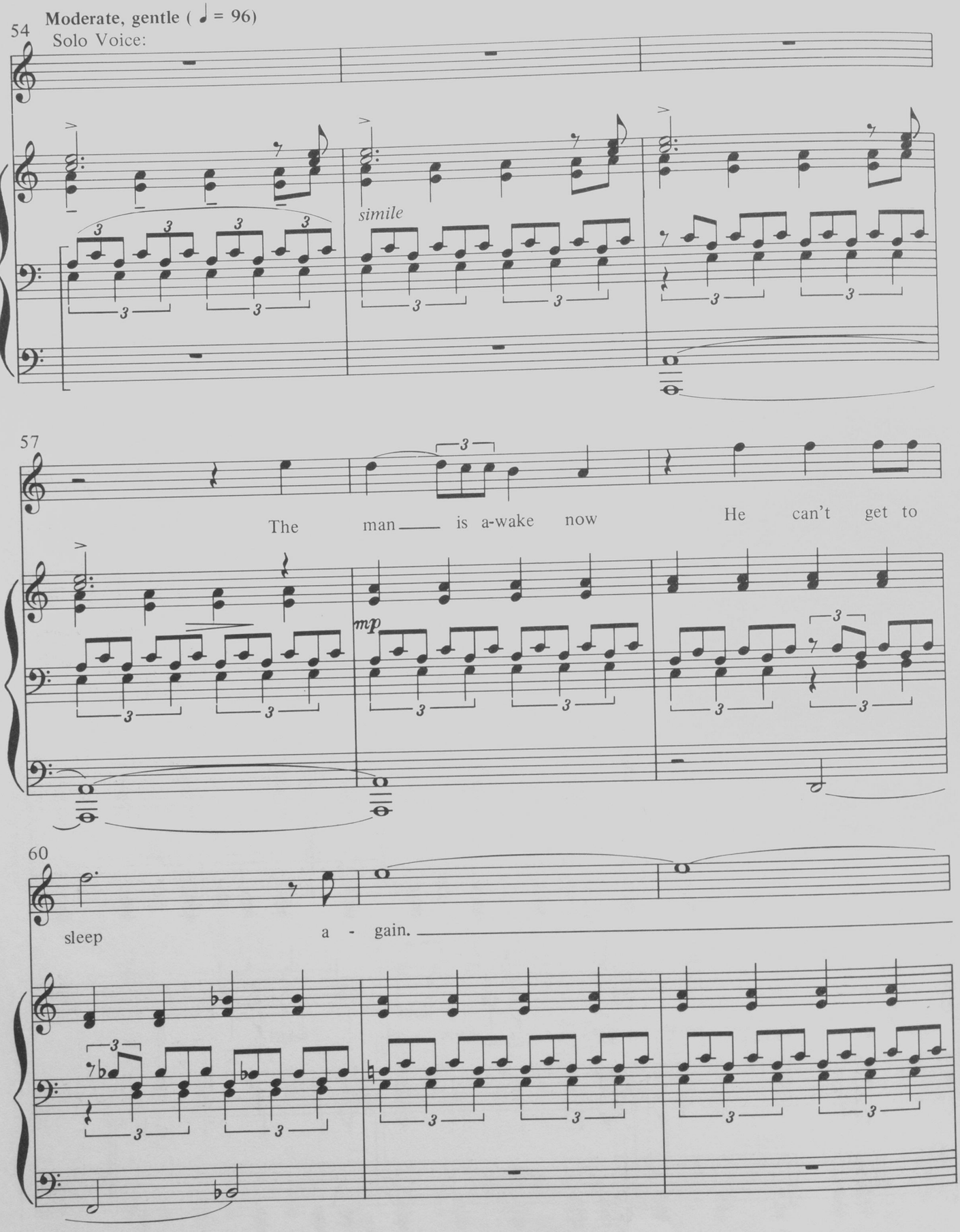
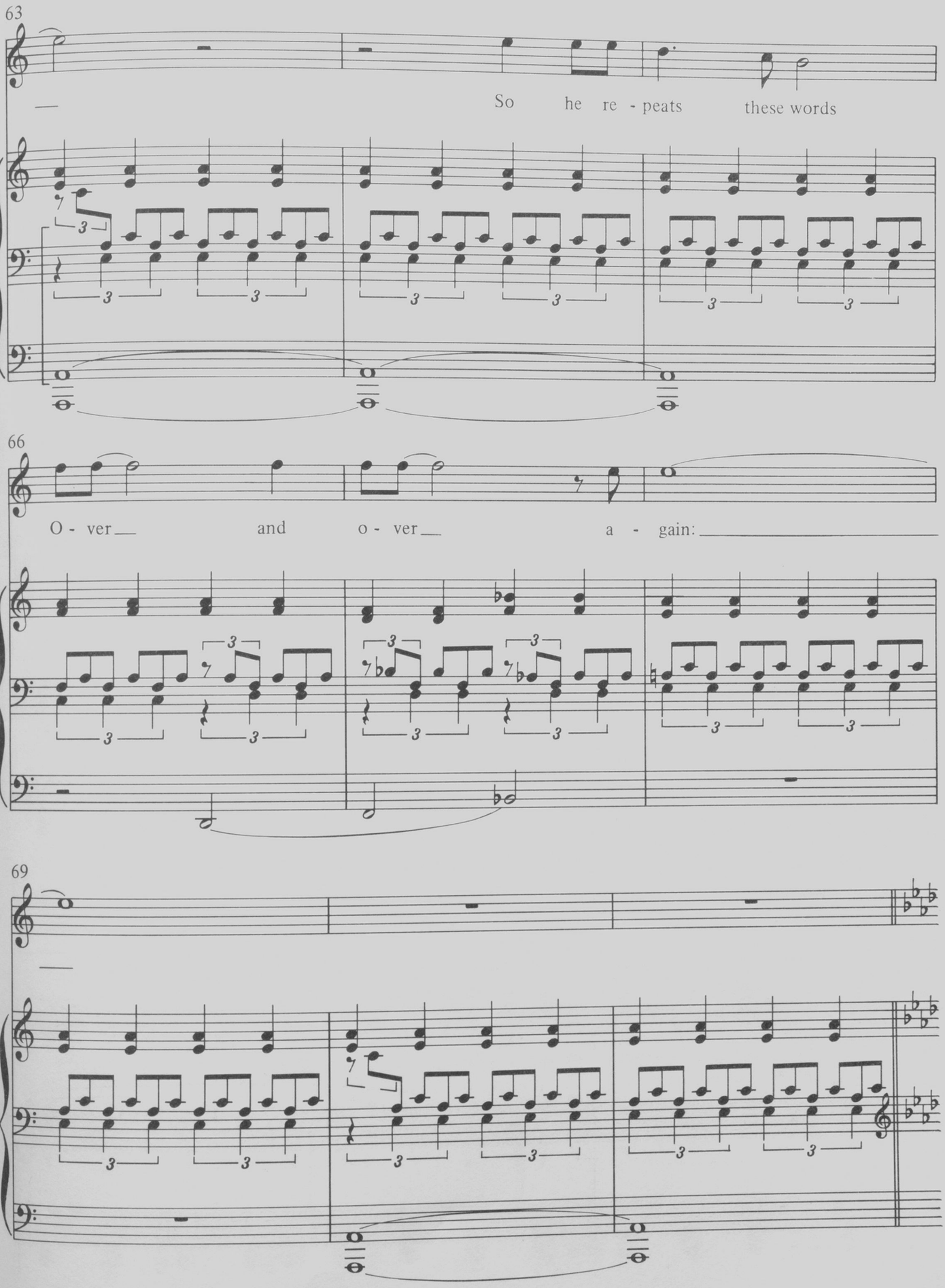

13
16
Voice:
A
19
man wakes up to the sound
of
p

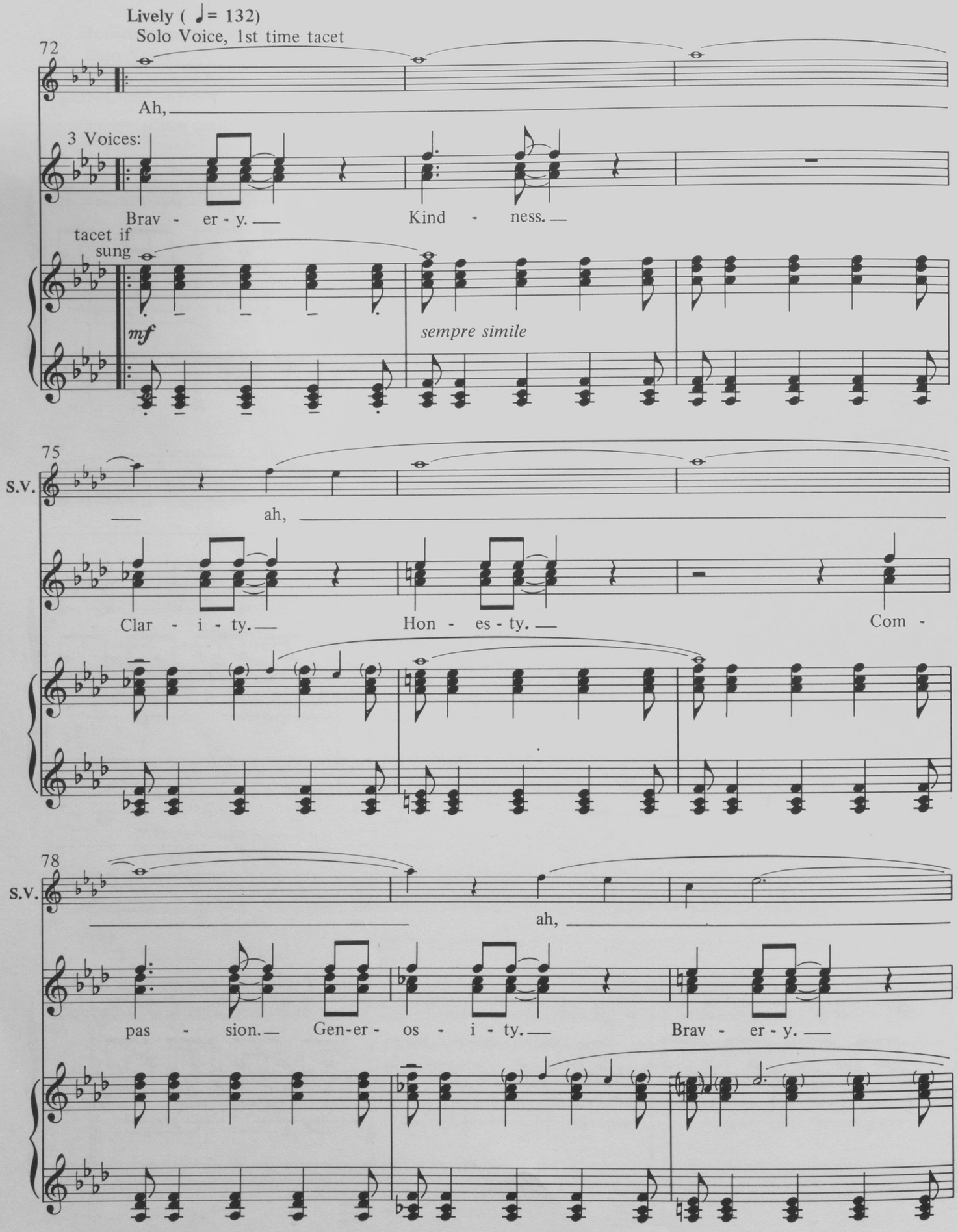

22
rain
25
From a dream a-bout his lov-ers
28
who pass through his room.

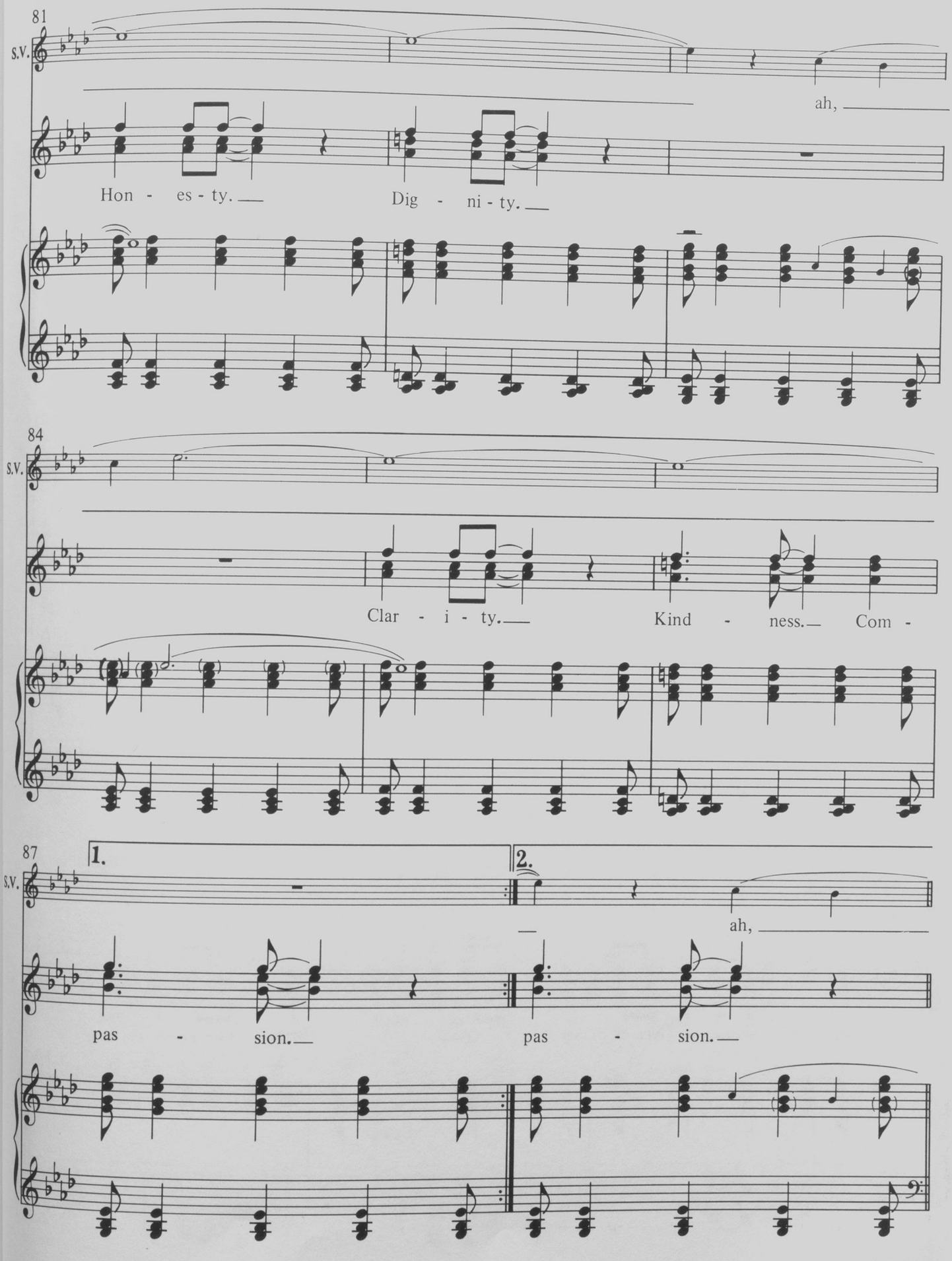

31
33
Lively (♩ = 132)
mf
sempre simile
36
1.
2. 3 Voices:
38
They
brush
light - ly
39
by,
these
lov - ers.
They
pass.
Nev - er

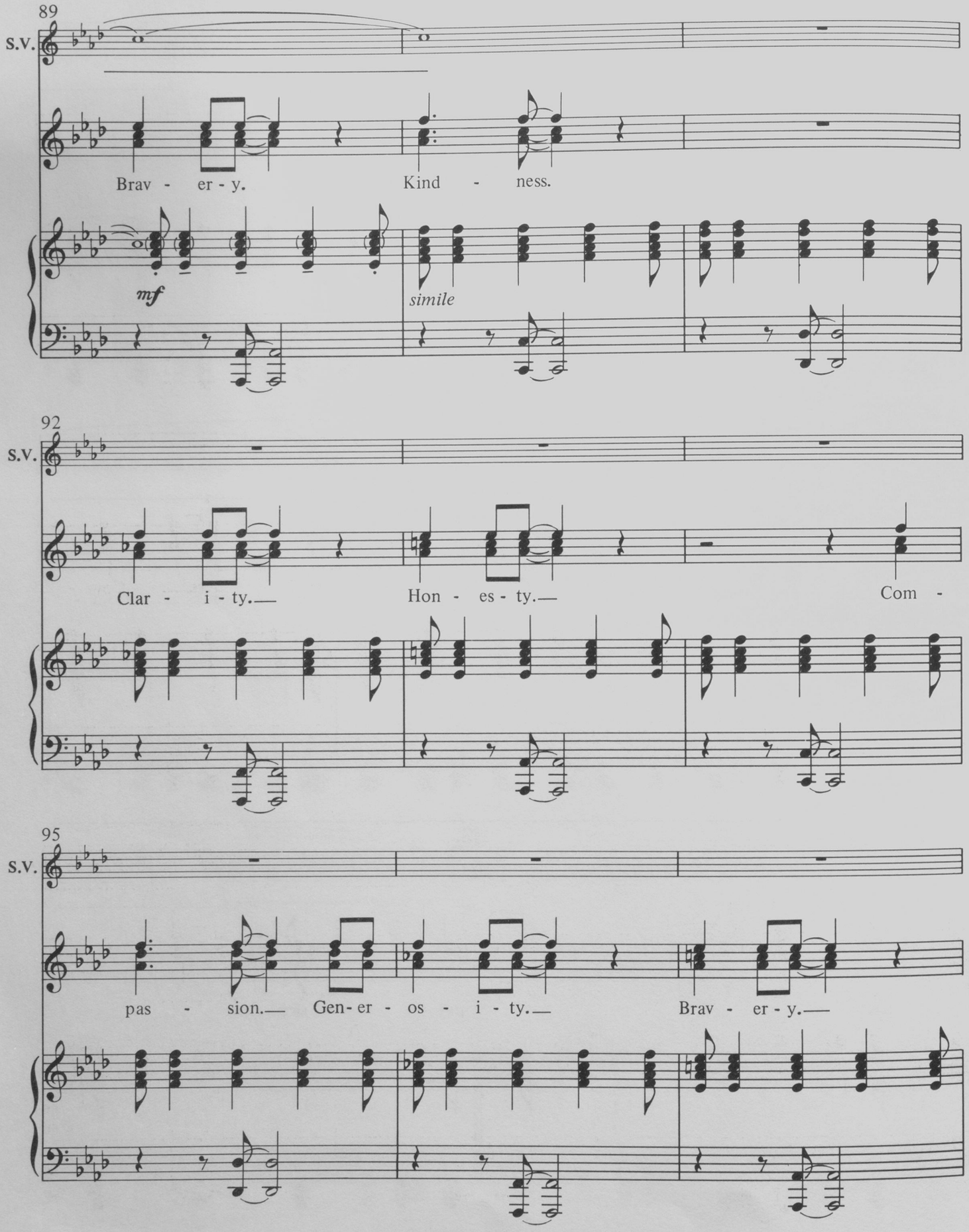

42
touch-ing. — These pass - ing lov - ers move through- his
45
room.
46
Ah — ah —
mf
48
ah — ah —
50
Ah ah —
51
ah ah — ah ah — ah ah —

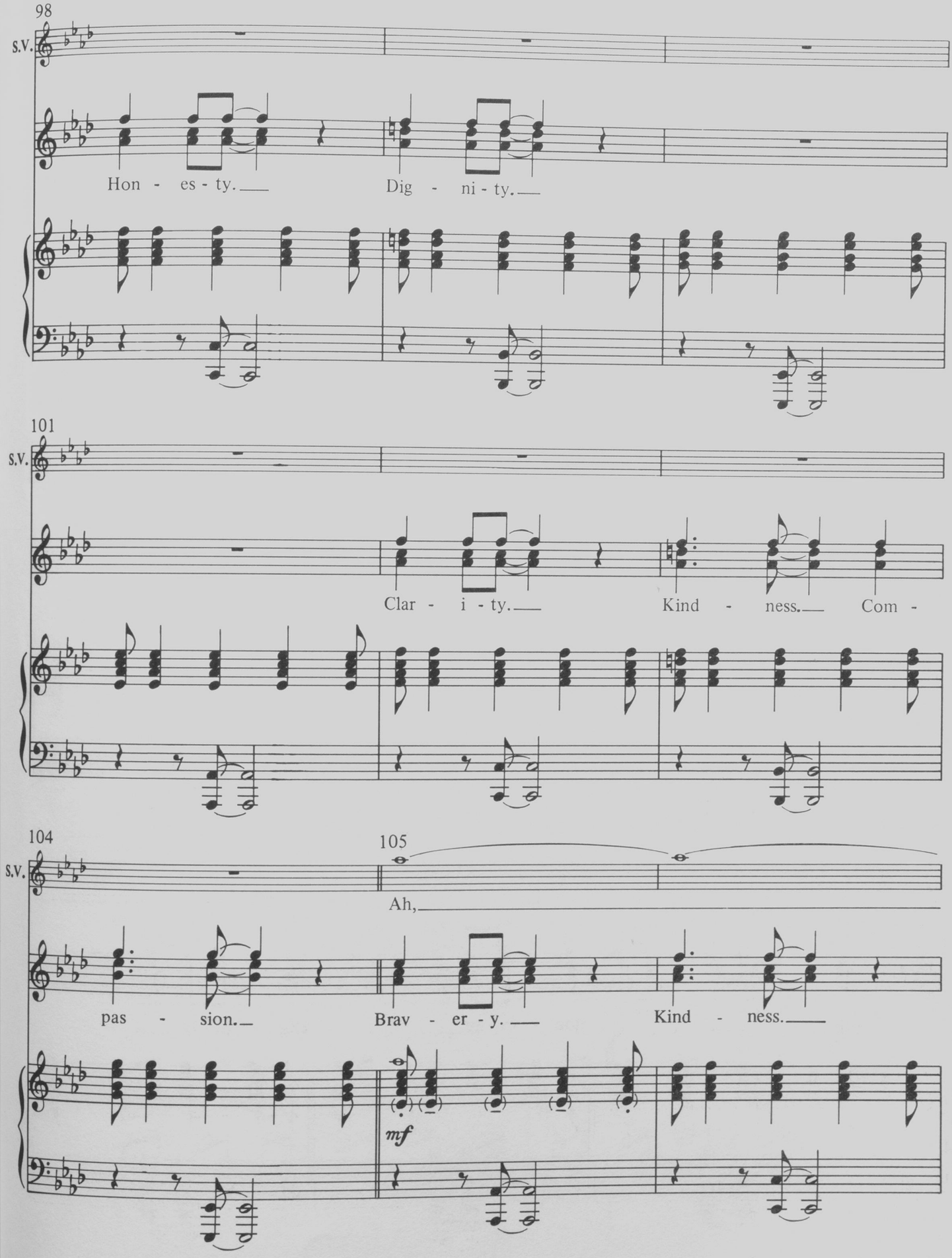

Moderate, gentle (♩ = 96)
54
Solo Voice:
simile
57
The man is a-wake now He can't get to
mp
60
sleep a - gain.

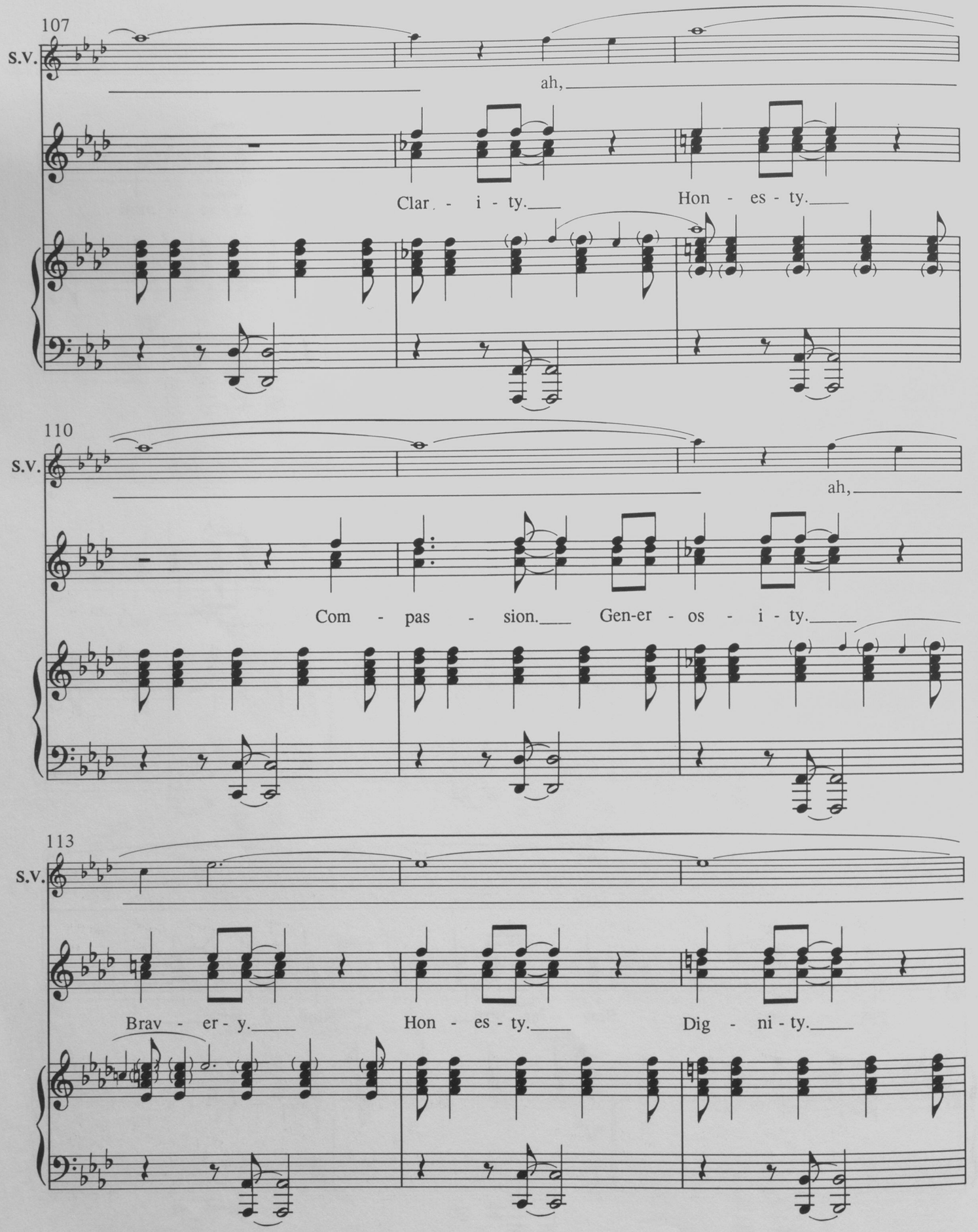

63
So he re - peats these words
66
O - ver and o - ver a - gain:
69

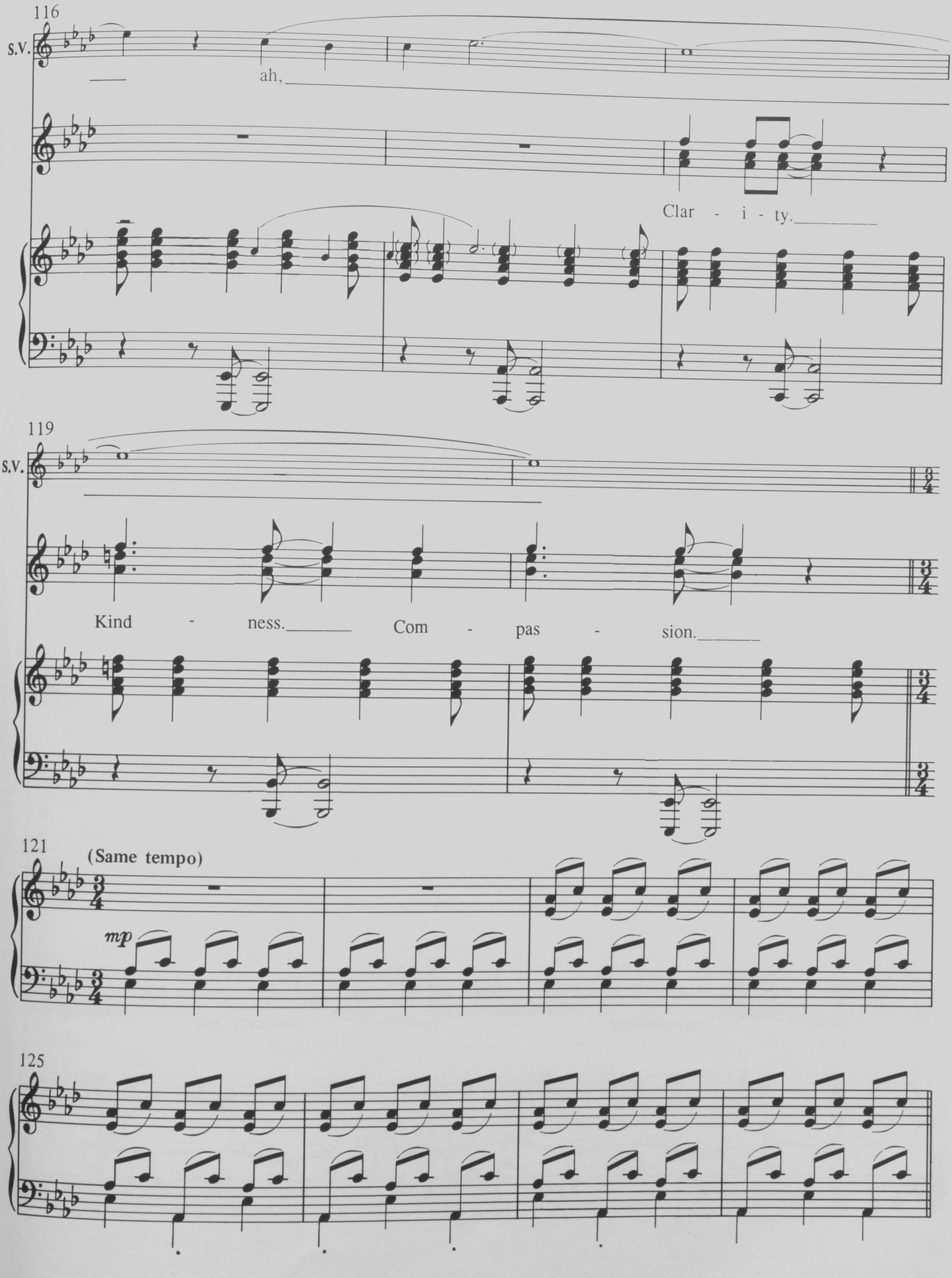

Lively (♩= 132)
Solo Voice, 1st time tacet
72
Ah,
3 Voices:
Brav - er - y.
Kind - ness.
tacet if sung
mf
sempre simile
75
S.V.
ah,
Clar - i - ty.
Hon - es - ty.
Com -
78
S.V.
ah,
pas - sion.
Gen-er - os - i - ty.
Brav - er - y.

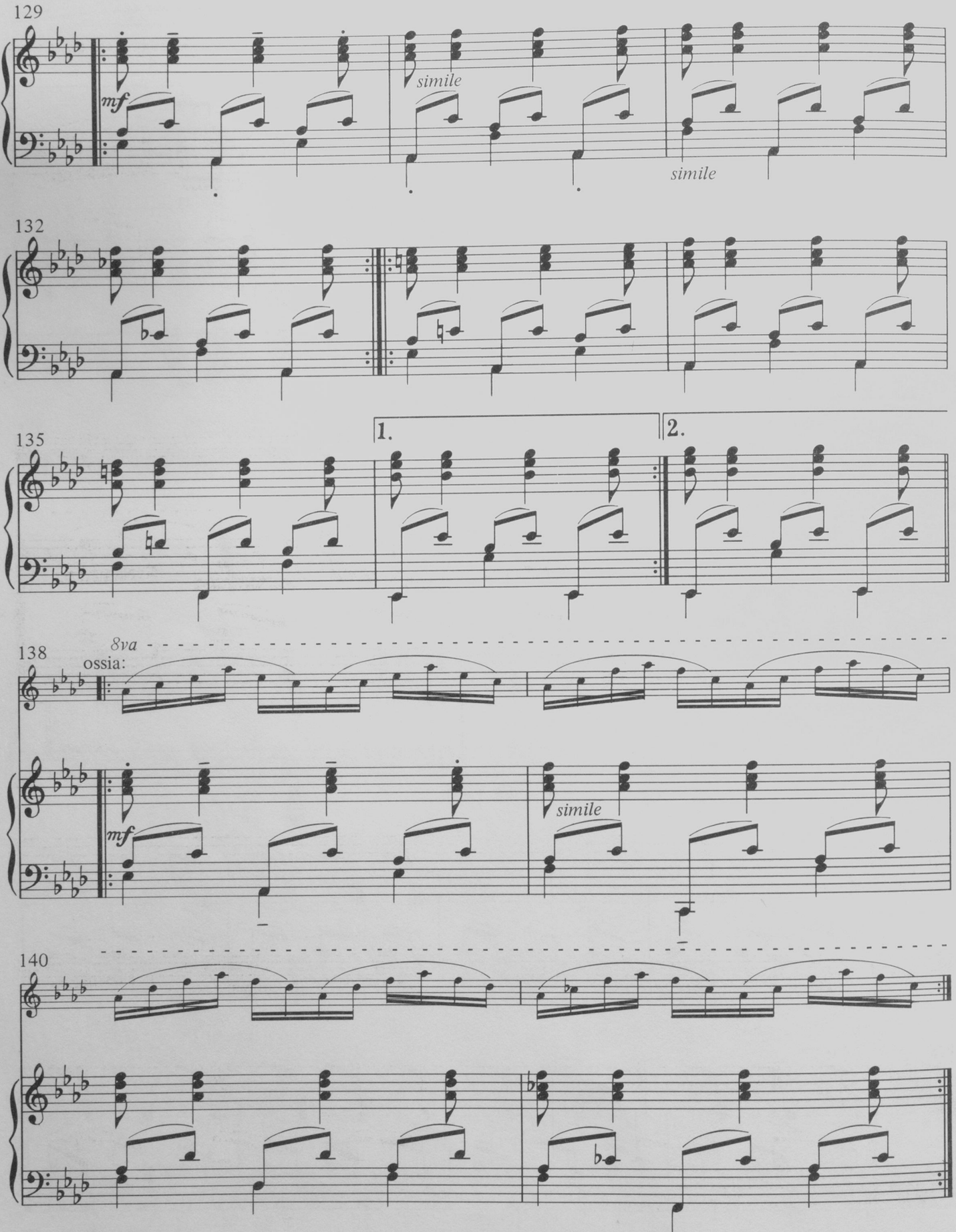

81
S.V.
ah,
Hon - es - ty.
Dig - ni - ty.
84
S.V.
Clar - i - ty.
Kind - ness.
Com -
87
S.V.
1.
2.
ah,
pas - sion.
pas - sion.

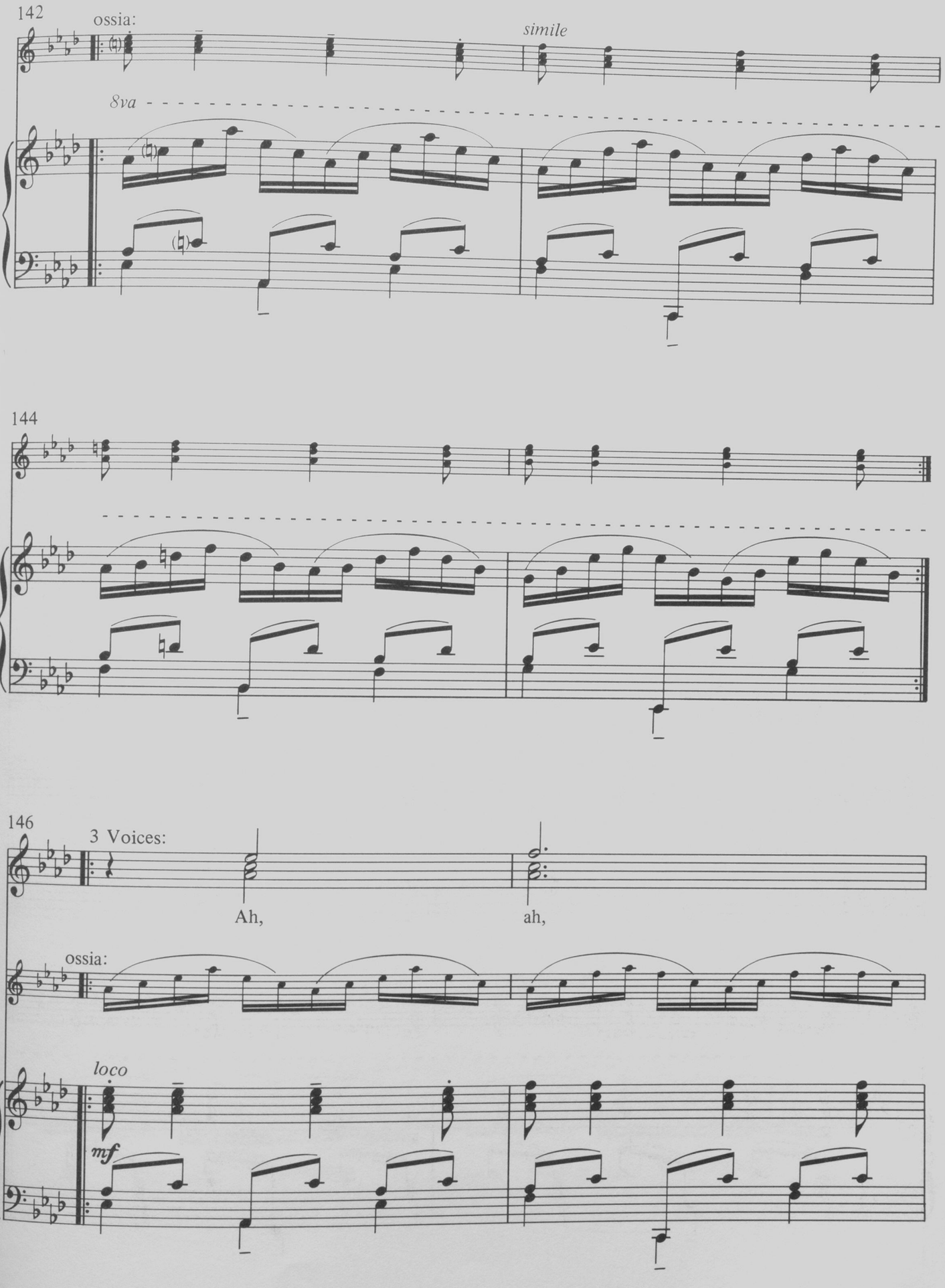

89
S.V.
Brav - er - y.
Kind - ness.
mf
simile
92
S.V.
Clar - i - ty.—
Hon - es - ty.—
Com -
95
S.V.
pas - sion.—
Gen- er - os - i - ty.—
Brav - er - y.—

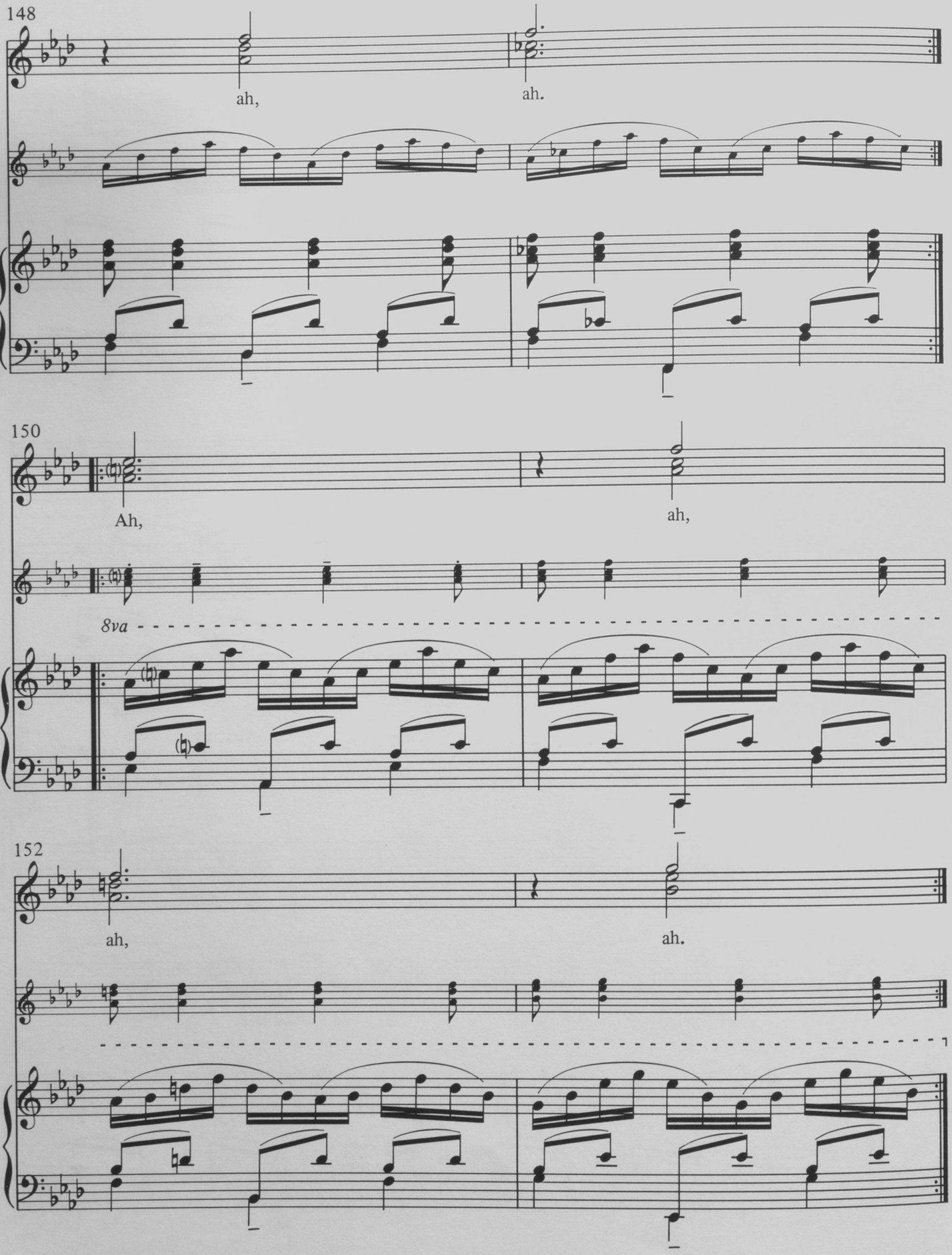

98
S.V.
Hon - es - ty.
Dig - ni - ty.
101
S.V.
Clar - i - ty.
Kind - ness.
Com -
104
S.V.
pas - sion.
105
Ah,
Brav - er - y.
Kind - ness.
mf

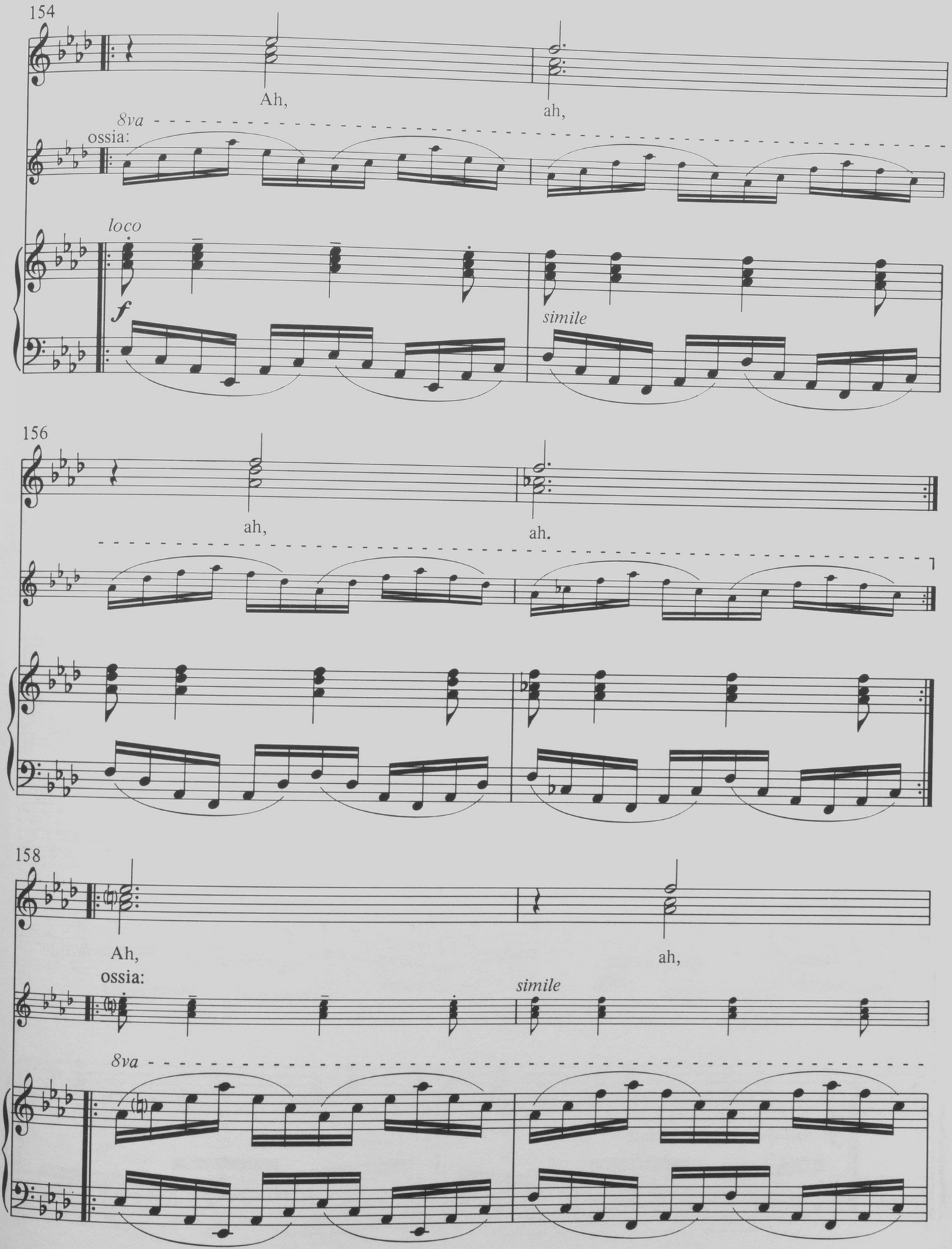

107
S.V.
ah,
Clar - i - ty.
Hon - es - ty.
110
S.V.
ah,
Com - pas - sion.
Gen-er - os - i - ty.
113
S.V.
Brav - er - y.
Hon - es - ty.
Dig - ni - ty.

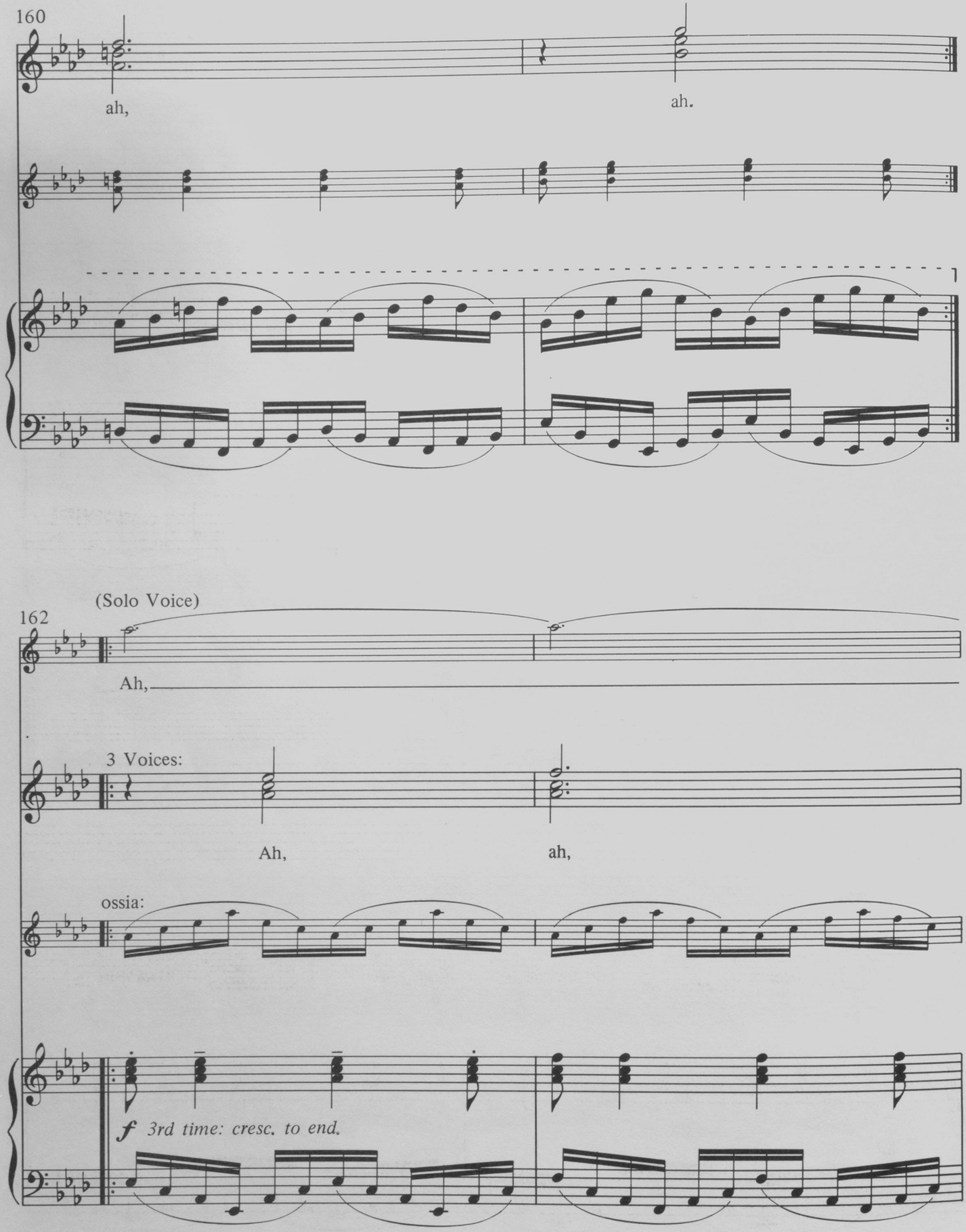

116
S.V.
ah,
Clar - i - ty.
119
S.V.
Kind - ness.
Com - pas - sion.
121
(Same tempo)
mp
125

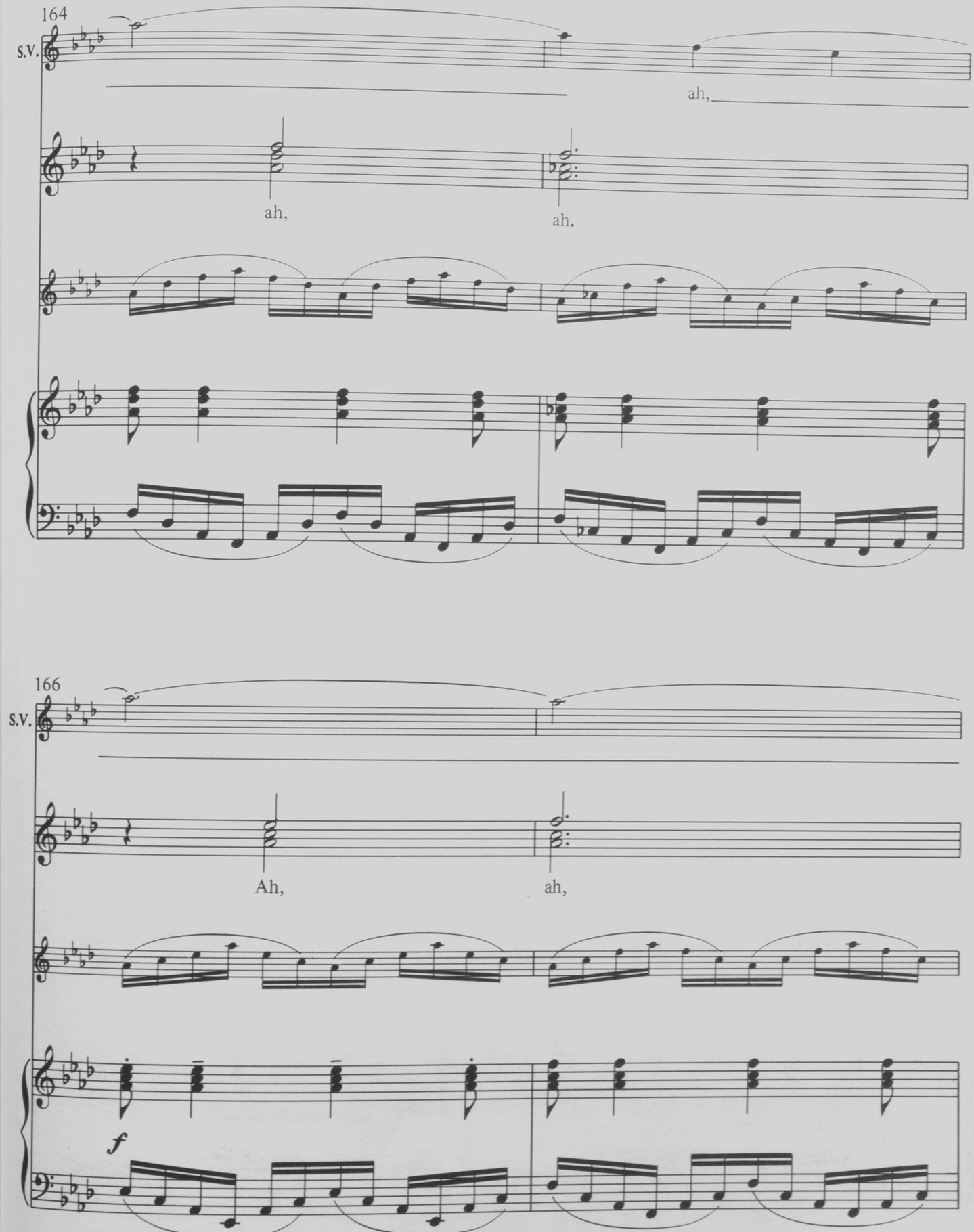

129
mf
simile
simile
132
135
1.
2.
138
8va
ossia:
mf
simile
140

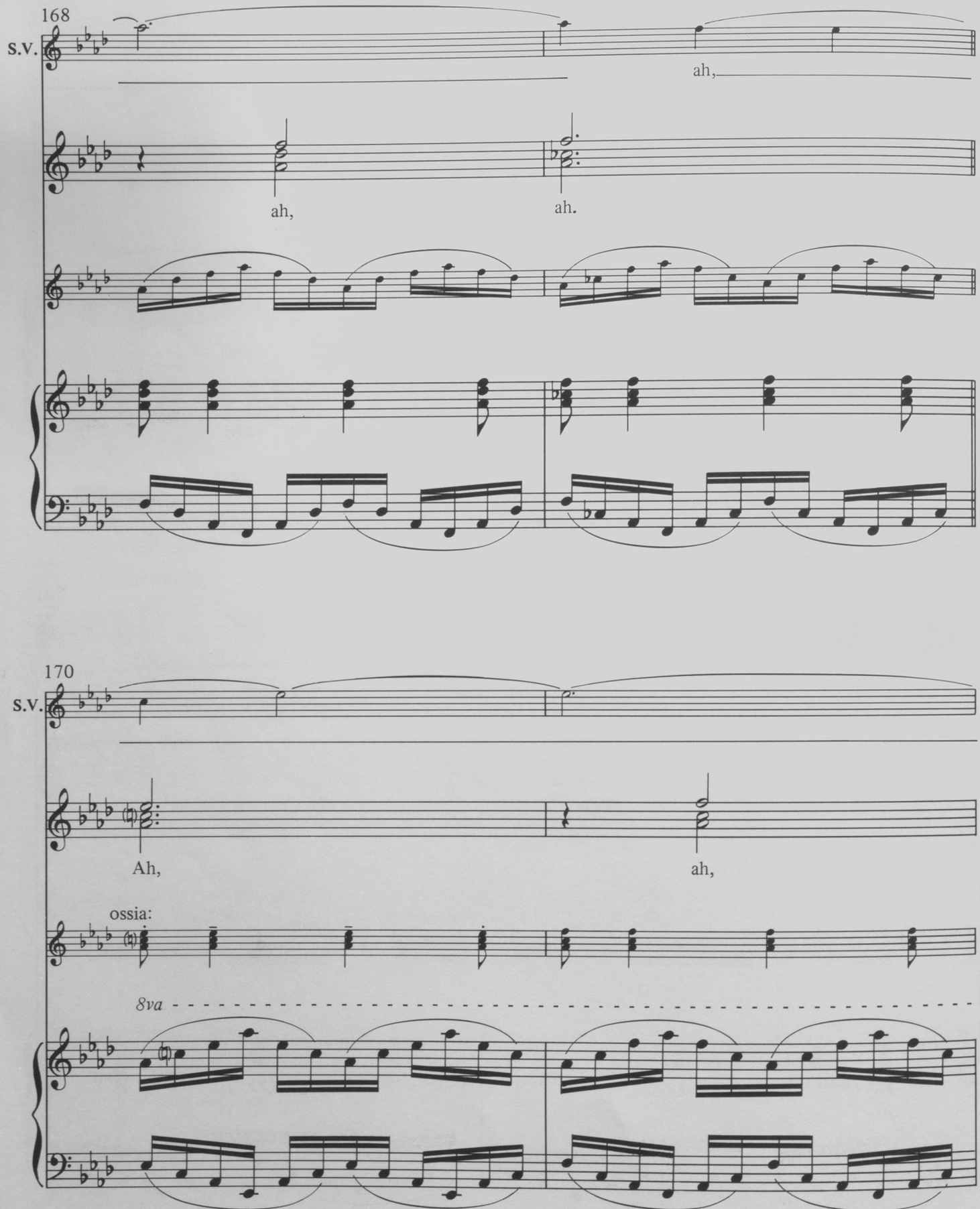

142
ossia:
simile
8va
144
146
3 Voices:
Ah,
ah,
ossia:
loco
mf

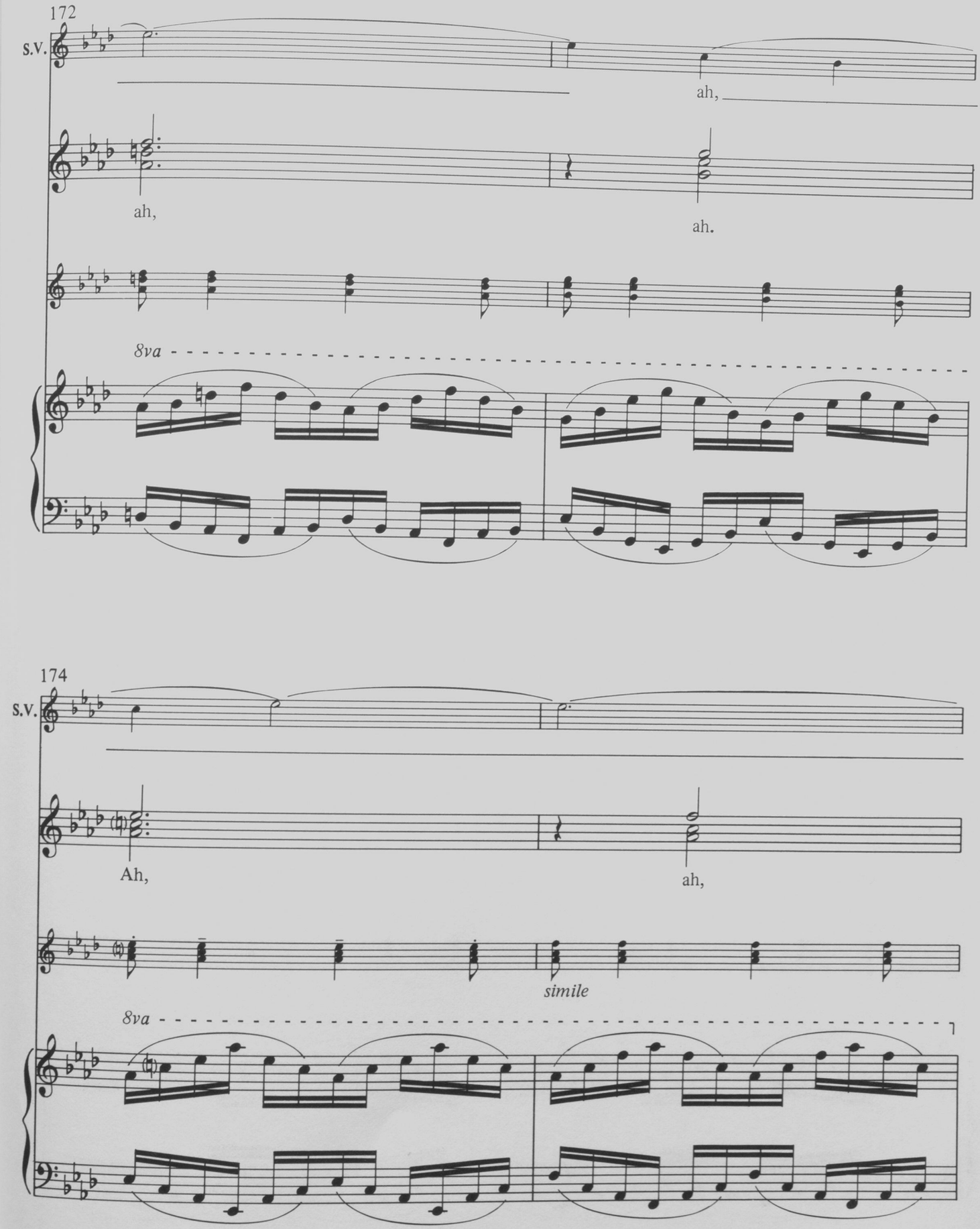

148
ah,
ah.
150
Ah,
ah,
8va
152
ah,
ah.

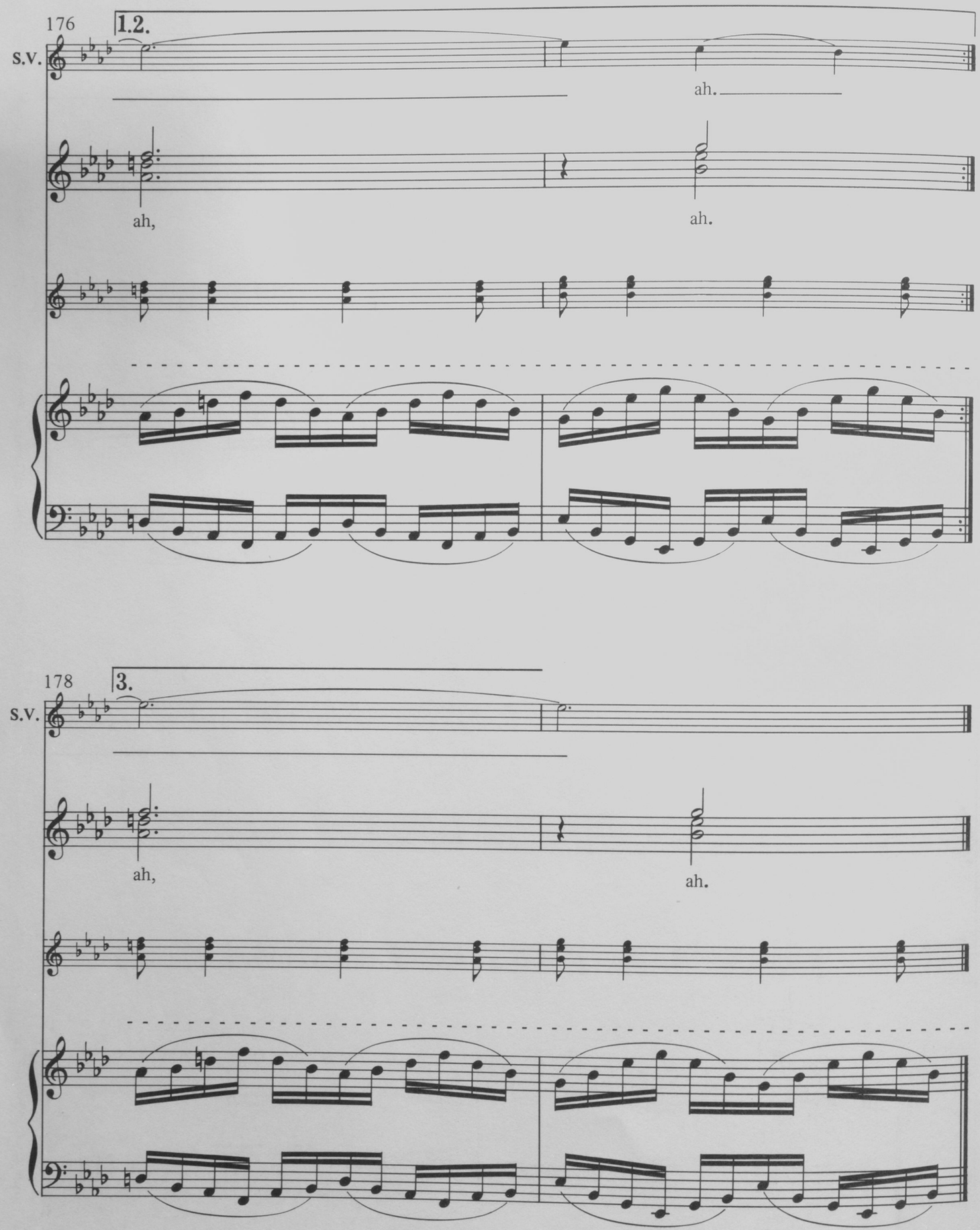

154
Ah,
ah,
8va
ossia:
loco
f
simile
156
ah,
ah.
158
Ah,
ah,
ossia:
simile
8va


160
ah,
ah.
(Solo Voice)
162
Ah,
3 Voices:
Ah,
ah,
ossia:
f 3rd time: cresc. to end.


164
S.V.
ah,
ah,
ah.
166
S.V.
Ah,
ah,
f


168
S.V.
ah,
ah,
ah.
170
S.V.
Ah,
ah,
ossia:
8va


172
S.V.
ah,
ah,
ah.
8va
174
S.V.
Ah,
ah,
simile
8va


176
1.2.
S.V.
ah.
ah,
ah.
178
3.
S.V.
ah,
ah.

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